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waitin' for!
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JUNE 1992

IKING THROUGH JUNE



FORCE TESTED!

MEGA DRIVE

Alisa Dragon	88
Arch Rivals	80
Atomic Runner	78
Aytron Senza	70
Bat! Symphon	84
Caliber 2K	6
Chuck Rock	90
Corporation	88
Dave Robinson	26
Double Dragon	30
Euroclub Soccer	40
Fishhawk	88
Gemoux	70
Jacques V. Rive	28
Medical Fighter	58
Mythic Gold	40
Super Off Road Racer	46
Tahitianna	22
Terminator	84
Test Drive 2	74
Turbo Cultiva	48
Warrior 2	50

MASTER SYSTEM

Ar Penace	40
Archie Smash Hits	30
Arch Rivals	38
Aytron Senza	70
Crash Rhyth	58
Chrysos Gold	40
Pitch and Putt	42
Rage	44
Terminator	64
Wendolite	52

ALL BALLS AND NO TROUSERS!



12 Tecmagik's knockout **CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE** hits the Master System. Is it a game of two halves, or just plain Mokin' brilliant? **Kick it!**



WELL WICKED!

22 This devil's mean but he sure ain't lean! **Segal's** epic **TAZMAMMA** whips up a tornado of scorching graphics and gameplay on the Mega Drive, leaving **Boris** bristled and bleeding in the shade!

GOING FOR GOLD!

40 Forget **Henry Kelly!** **OLYMPIC GOLD's** the official isle for the BIG bash in Barcelona. US Gold've got their spikes on to bring out the best of the action.

HELL FOR LEATHER!

70 Shift your butt to the chequered flag as **Aytron Senza**, **Super Monaco GP**, pulls up on the starting grid. MS and MD reviewed.

CLASH OF THE TITANS!

8 National Play a Game Day-Saga Euro Champ **Danny Curley** came, ran and got his ass kicked by our man in Romford, **PAUL MELLERICK!**

RUN OR FRY!

18 Shoot 'em up at its level best! **Chelton** is the **ATOMIC RUNNER** in Data East's latest Stateside blockbuster!

TAKE YOUR PICK!

59 Get regular with **SEGA FORCE** and pick up a fantastic joystick or case for your troubles! It's gotta make sense.

DRIBBLE MASTERS!

26 Jordan V. Bird, Dave Robinson's **Count Basketball** and **Arch Rivals**. A true sporting feast and more balling than you can grab.



USA HERE 'N' NOW

15 The Black Marshall's getting excited about **SHRAMP THING** and still finds time to play with his **ACTION FIGURES** - no dolls here, honest!

WIN A GAME GEAR!

14 Get to grips with Tecmagik's teaser and With a fabulous **Game Gear**, TV tuner, **Bobby bag** and cart pack! Oh yes!



REGULARS

- 6 **Outter Tails** - show news and previews from down the play
- 7 **Adby Dab's** Meaningful Master Bit - inane drivel and the latest rental bits
- 28 **Pittney** - Shroto on the GO gets a good going over in cheat mode
- 78 **Outenridge** - Snipey noses through the latest mailing of chess.

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How often do you guys, Big Red take little kids to school? I'm sure in dealing important results and information, we offer prices in good faith, leaving them to be available. If something unusual happens (like a kid's car) returning from the members, Paul Maltwick, waiting for his car or his Maltwick doing some work, we reserve the right to submit prices at competitive value. No person who has any relationship, no matter how remote (or involved in anyone who works for EUROPEAN) will be associated with any company offering prices. This entire company, the parent company is return anything sent to SEGA FORCE, including writers and photographic material, written or written notes if it is accompanied by a suitably stamped envelope. Of course we'd love to know what happened to Paul the first few weeks of March 1992, since it is a bit with a hole in my telephone. I used to be paid for your current total on, and no material may be reproduced in whole or part without the written consent of the copyright holders.

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Cover illustration by Oliver Pees
Cheers for all your hard work GB, hope your have incredible digital talent like me like the Red sunburn...and special thanks to all the boys and girls at GOMAG for the amazing love island! Love you.

Gotcha...!

A BIT OF A CULT!

If you're on the ball, you'll probably know already that TV's *Conan* comes back on the air in the Autumn. What you probably didn't know is that Newland International, the brains behind the cult show, are looking to take new comedy jokers on board.

If you've got what it takes to fit in five minute TV time, as a contestant or reviewer, then here's your chance. Simply write off to: **CONAN/STARR STATION, PO Box 94, London, W1A 9QJ** and remember to include the following details:

1. Favorite games (and high scores if you can)
2. Background details (age, contact phone number and address)
3. A recent photo

Get lucky and you'll have the chance to enter the famous *Conan* Consideration Zone in front of a live audience. Judge Peter'll be sending someone along to join in the action so if any of you get accepted for the show, write and let us know. One of all the lowdowns and we'll make sure you get a good mention in *Saga Force*. After all, everybody knows that *Conan* readers are the best gamers around, so let's get on the air and prove it properly. *Saga Force* Clomp Clomp Carley's already been invited by Paul Mullerick - look out World, here we come!

TecMagik goes Kiwi!

I was a bit on some computers, now millions of Morden Systems owners everywhere wait with bated breath for the *Mega New Zealand Story* to fill the shelves. Well take, at long last it's here - almost!

Star of the show, Tiki the Kiwi has suffered a grievous loss. Feathers are flying too! Sadly the well-wired Waiwais has disappeared many of Tiki's 'kiki' friends.

What's more, our hero's brilliant Phee-Phee has gone and got herself into dire straits too (as it's a whole lotta trouble, not the rock group). Tiki must round the parks and zoos of New Zealand untying the cages where his sloping charms are held captive.

Sneaky snails, blood-sucking bats and rick-kicks are among the forces of badness Tiki must defeat. Can he tattoo out the maze-like worlds of New Zealand's roads, discover the many weapons and objects en route, rescue his mates, defeat Waiwai and return his darling Phee-Phee to safety? A mean task indeed!



We had a peek at *New Zealand Story* at the PCIS Show and it looks amazing! The game boasts 16-bit quality graphics, 21 levels, 12 different tunes and the original rain-slip soundtrack. It looks as though TecMagik have got another smash on their hands. *New Zealand Story's* due for an early Autumn release. Expect a full review pretty damn soon.

HI-POWERED MONGERING

If you look through this list you'll come across Virgin's game line up for the summer, well now it's official. The latest trend for console games seems to be conversion of Amiga games - as well as Chuck Rock, Corporation etc etc. Electronic Arts are in the process of programming *Power Monger*.

It's looking a bit like a *Populous* clone but there's much more to *Power Monger* than looks.

Featuring intelligence for each individual and other factors such as wealth



on seasons and high-level corruption, *Power Monger's* definitely going to be top heavy in the manual department...

Due for an August release *Power Monger* is looking good so far. Look out for the advance play soon.

VIRGIN' ON THE RIDICULOUS

Oh, I don't know! Microsoft go down the tubes. Accusant buy them out, then Virgin get hold of the software!

This computing lark is a bit of a pain sometimes. Anyway, the reason for all



this babble is that Virgin are gonna be releasing the Microsoft titles over the next few months.

This involves *Xenon 2* on MS & MD, *Speedball* on the MS and *Speedball 2* on MS & MD, with the following OFFICIAL release dates.

Xenon 2 - MS in July 1992 with *Xenon 2* - MD in August 1992

Speedball on the MS is now due in July 1992, with sequel *Speedball 2* now put back until January 1993.

Speedball 2 on the MD will be joining the UK in August 1992, we reviewed the game in issue 1 and gave it 90% and a Mega-Blaster, so it's gotta be worth a buyline.





Video rental's on its way, folks! If you're a

shopkeeper, read on. The critic's as follows: You must be a member of the Video Traders' Association, pay 40¢ speedies for the trader's license, splash out 1.5¢

medicines per day (25¢ each extra for each store if you have a chain) and purchase a minimum of 100

games at 50¢ each! Who's gonna be thick enough to hark out that much? Jagan's abandoned one rental scheme already and at these prices, we say this one's gonna work! All the parties involved are deep in negotiation right now, so perhaps we can expect a verdict pretty soon. Stay tuned!

I thought complete domination of Jagan Ferra would be mine, mine, mine, what with Colin Marley meeting into design and Paul Maffelrich trying to fight his way out of a paper bag, then what does this kid go and do? Takes on another staff writer that's what! He's Matthew Yee from Scoutbridge in the West Midlands famous for his placewits, Robert Hunt, The Wondershuff and Mollie Sugden, I find about the last small, formal introductions next ish, at back end leave yourselves for his magnet-dread pit of happy the Bush Kongood



I'M THE LEADER!

More goodies from the European Computer Trade Show (ECTS), this time from US Gold. As well as all the Olympic Gold goodies we got for this issue, we also managed to grab (a)le screenshots for the excellent Mega Drive version of World Class

Leaderboard. More coverage coming up next month, but get a load of those options and bring your hands in frustration for a little while longer! It's looking good from what we've seen so far and should make a brilliant substitute for a poor handicap!

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS...

Kiss your eyes peeled, your ear to the ground and expect an exciting Mega title from Domark before the year's out. To say they're busy down in Pune (home of the dirt) has to be a huge understatement. Game Gear, Master System and Mega Drive coming alive are set to benefit from Domark's blood, sweat and tears! (Yacht-Go).

Having gatecrashed their party at the ECTS Show, I managed to accost PM Eric Wilson (Strud and, after a goodly dose of frosty charm) [I], she was only too happy to show me Prince of Persia on the Master System!

Some day my prince will come

8-bit cavers are in for a treat: it looks fabulous! The graphics and animation are simply amazing!



For those unfamiliar with the game, you live on the role of a young adventurer attempting to save the life of a beautiful Arabian-haired princess. The Grand Wizard, an evil and sexually deviant ruler, attempts to poison and steal her innocence once and for all! Whatever you do,



don't let the dastardly devil get away with it! Make your way through dungeons, towers and palace chambers, collecting items, solving puzzles and ransacking 'til you can bubble your sweat in moon! That girl's just has to be rescued!

Both GG and MS versions are due for release in July. Domark have a surefire

hit on their hands, coz Prince of Persia looks and plays like a dream!

8-bit Pitfighting!

News at last of Pitfighter for the Master System. Since giving the Mega Drive version 80% in issue 2, we've been inundated with letters from MS owners pleading for an 8-bit game.

Domark in the mood! October's the scheduled release date, so prepare yourselves to punch and punture like they're so tender!

Wrestling, kick boxing or karate: the choice is yours! One-on-one, gang fights, grudge matches, Pitfighter has 'em all. The harder the fight gets, the harder you fight back with new moves you added as the game progresses.

If the Mega Drive version's anything to go by, the MS game should be a right little smasher!

Shaken not stirred!

One little gem Domark have kept under their hat is the release of James Bond on all three formats. I saw a demo of the MS version and it looks pretty slick.

Arch-enemy Ernst Stavro Blofeld has marshalled his forces for one last attempt at conquering the world. His kidnapped Professor Michael Jones and his daughter Sarah and forced the prof to build a cloning machine. Now all Bond's old adversaries are brought back to life and cause us two some chaotic G-kill.

As Bond, you're sent to a small Caribbean island and must thwart Ernie's evil plan and save Michael and Susan. Battle your way through four increasingly difficult scenarios in this action-packed, no nonsense platform romp.

As you can see from our screenshots, the graphics look mega impressive. Big and colourful, just the way we like 'em! James Bond's released on the Master System and Mega Drive in October. Game Gear went on honoured with 80% in issue 2. December, it's well worth the wait!

Pursuing marbles in outer space?

Diana Pursuit, Marble Madness and Super Space Invaders are set to kick up



a storm. TP was a runaway success on home computers and now MS, MG and GG owners can put on their thinking caps and get their grey matter around such questions as: 'What's Tricakalaphobia?' How many golf balls are there on the moon? and Does Paul Maffelrich have hairy pants with the light on? (I think I lied about the last one!)

With over 3,000 challenging lessons, amazing screen backgrounds and an atmosphere that's true to the original board game, Trivial Pursuit will have you hooked.

The Master System version's released September. Game Gear in October and then's questions and answers openly on the Mega Drive in December.

And finally, the classic Marble Madness rolls onto the small screen next month (see Mega Drive review, 82%, issue 4) and Super Space Invaders on the GG (Master System version reviewed issue 2, 87%).

We've a full review of Prince of Persia and James Bond on the cards. Those boys been all Domark have promised to keep me on my toes. I reckon I'll go and have a lie down right now, it mustn't sleep with you, Mr ECTS (Already boy, already!)

SINGING FOR SEGA!

The latest buzz on the grapevine suggests that Sega's beaten off some pretty major opposition to win the exclusive (2 million sponsorship) of the European Football Championships on ITV.

Sega isn't letting on too much about the deal yet, but if it's confirmed, it means there's gonna be a whole lot of Sega coverage on TV during the June fest. With around £1.5 million worth of ITV airtime and an extra half million to be spent elsewhere, this is gonna be heavy duty.

No doubt Sonic'll be popping up all over the place and there's a good chance he'll get a mention from those wise old soccer pundits, Saini and Grantwell!

Nothing's been confirmed as yet, but you can bet we'll let you know what to look out for in next month's ish. There'll be more Sega release news next month as well, with the brilliant Eviler Halfhead boring both and Mellow World RPG outing. Both are looking great so far, so stay tuned for more details.

SLOW DEATH!

Genesis's latest blockbuster *The Hunt 2 - Die Harder* is creeping ever closer to the finishing post. The game itself is finished and takes pretty damned smart from what we've seen of it.

You play John McClane, Bruce Willis' character in a close adaptation of the film set over five explosive levels. As soon as clearance is given for the release, we'll be giving it the full treatment. Keep your fingers crossed and if our info's right, it could well be next issue.

Further down the line, there'll be more news of Genesis's future stuff. Both *Rock Fists Golf* and the addictive looking arcade action game *Beaten* are down on the schedule and we'll let you know how they're coming along soon.



A LOAD OF BOLLISTICK!

A fair old name for a fair old joystick, the can't show you any pics of Chevrolet's new stick for the Master System and Mega Drive yet, but I got a chance to play around with one at the EGTS show recently and it's certainly handling well so far. Why Bollistick? Yep, I asked the silly question and was assured by Chevrolet's Howard Wilkinson it was because the stick looked like a pair of...um... exactly! Keep your eyes peeled for our super joystick round-up soon and see what you think... he's not far wrong!

Selling at £29.95, the Bollistick isn't exactly going to bust the bank, but worth a test run and if you're into ergonomics (no, that doesn't mean I think therefore I'm a little person), this one should fit the bill nicely.

GO GET 'EM PAUL!

Pressing up his chicken sandwiches (no mignonettes) in his best sundae-gentleman cap, our hero Paul 'call me Mr Picky' Mollenick gets on a horse race and prepares to meet Sega Force Champ Danny Curley in a mammoth head-to-head battle organized by the Game store in Brompton.

After weeks of whingeing, whistling and wheeling, we've needed to practice... Big Ed pronounces Paul as if as a near ripe marrow can be on the top leg and sets him loose on the Champ.

Ed Mckeney, John Madden's '92 and Columbus: the games are picked, the rules set and the moment of truth's upon us. Three corners at two sharp. Ed Mckeney - Canada if Canada, five minute periods, no penalties. Words are poorer than beaten battles at a Barnetbury as the horsepunches take their tolls. In the tension mounts, the carriage creaks in and Paul's guy calls (go on to lunch).

After making a fairly promising start, it's all going heavily wrong for Paul in the second period he can't do a thing



So it's all down to the last offering on the menu. The three minute head-to-head Columbus-test of force. With the element of luck involved here, it could go either way but, as those colored squares come splashing down the screen... it doesn't.

Warning though in true Sega Force style, Paul knows Danny Curley inside like a well-worn sea-sack and wins all three takes in superb style, walking the final round at 14000-12012.

Well done Paul, we love ya! Problem is, Sonic'll be a well baked old hedgehog



right and Danny's just slotting them past Mollenick's defense and specimen of a goal-keeper. Muft said! Final score: 13-4 Danny Curley.

Next up, John Madden's '92 All Madden V All Madden, five minute quarters, open game, fair weather and Paul to kick off, wondering if he's even been able to show his face back at Sega Force Town.

More like it! A real battle of strategy. Curley launches down, Mollenick equalizes. Curley scores again, but Mollenick blocks the conversion! A great piece of play this and it makes way for Paul to keep a two point advantage later on in the game.

With just over 30 seconds to play, Paul's in possession, the Time-Outs are spent and all Danny Curley can do is watch with an expression on his face like an elephant's back, as Paul runs down the clock. Final score: 35-34 Paul Mollenick. Yeesss!



Looks like 10-year old Raymond O'Brien of Thornbury has seen a ghost, or a 3' 2" Paul beautifully taking out death on Golden Axe II!

by the time Mollenick's mawkish ego lets me forget about this. Last we heard he was still celebrating his victory, complaining about his grey slippers somewhere in the hospital's ward! You've gotta feel sorry for the sheep really!

At least Paul had the sense to ask for a new waffle stick instead of a wip-rice when the Big Ed offered him a winning price, even in his element Mollenick still knows better value for money when he sees it!

CLASH OF THE TURNIPS!



'Smelly' Melly outguns Curley and the Champeen gets his Romford! In case you've got absolutely no idea what any of this is about, clear your lugs! Monday April 13 was National Play a Game Day - a big celebration in honour of all you games freaks out there- so get a life, stay in tune and enjoy what happened!



EA Hockey the less said the better! Paul couldn't get his act together on the ice and it was looking like a long journey home!



Builder's What a challenge! Only a couple conversions. Most from Melnick off the victory!



"I WAS ROBBED!"

Well, Danny Curley was bound to say it! A remark has been called for and, when we finally locate that, we'll let you know well in advance where the next big showdown's gonna take place.

Big thanks go out to the boys and



girls down at Games in Romford for making us welcome and letting us take over their shop for the day. Quite apart from the serious business of the challenge though, both Paul and Danny pulled out the stops to help raise some money for the NSPCC.

At 3p a throw, Game punters in the

shop were given the chance to challenge either of the superstars to the game of their choice. Not surprisingly, there were a fair few takers on the Gold Coast, though Golden Axe was pretty popular too!

Believe it or not, both Paul and Danny took a couple of beatings! Thirteen year old Matthew Cross of Romford took Paul all the way on Pinballz, coming away a thoroughly deserving winner at 2/1 on the duck. What's that Paul? You tell Steve we're because he's a Sega Force reader! (yep)



Copy, very copy! Paul's pocket is all for business, for Danny's playing it cool and casual during EA Hockey!

(git-it), Paul's losing streak stretched to Golden Axe II and EA Hockey too, cropping out to thirteen year old Steven Kelly on the first and getting well stuffed by local boy Steve Johnson 4-2 on the last!

All the winners were treated to special Game goodie bags, stuffed with T-shirts, postcards, badges, key-rings, copies of Sega Force and loads of other stuff, and they didn't half disappear fast!

Oh well, it was all in a good cause and when the Mega Drive finally gapped its last around 5.00pm, over 100 quid had been raised for the children's charity. Paul and Danny were nursing blistered fingers, and Romford was still trying to work out what the hell was going on! Time for bed!





Reviewed!



SMGP 2 gets a test drive and PAUL MELLERICK's foaming at the mouth with old clichés again. Burn it up Buster!

AYRTON SENNA'S SUPER MONACO GRAND PRIX

Super Monaco Grand Prix is a Formula One racing game that was out of this world before and great on the MS. So back and settle for that, would ya?

Not if your company's called Sega you wouldn't. Digga, now, later and looked by the 1991 Formula One Grand Prix champion—Ayrton Senna—SMGP 2's here.

This game hasn't just got his name behind it, he insisted on being in on the production, too.

As with the old MD and MS games, the action takes place over 16 world championship courses, from USA to Great Britain, including the infamous Monaco circuit. Especially for the MS game, the Senna has designed two extra courses to test the ultimate driver. Hellah!

As well as those by the man himself, a third track's included, Senna's personal track at his ranch in Brazil. If it's good enough for him, it's good enough for you!

Absolute Beginners

The MD follows the original very closely. Graphically and soundwise, there are no major enhancements. The same style and basic graphics are used, as is the speech, this time provided by the main man.

But get the car underway and watch out. Although the speed of the car's slightly more realistic (dropped from 416 to 346 km/h), the scrolling has been speeded up and the backdrops given greater detail. Trackside scenery has been brought out more, making the game look's better to look at.

In World Championship mode you can choose from Beginner or Master and this mainly affects the steering. Light and easy in Beginner, but tough and uncontrollable in the Master mode, unless you reduce your speed. Try Beginner first!

The mode also affects the number of laps in a race, from three for Beginners to six for Masters.

Super Licence/licence!

Instead of the old Monaco GP competition you must finish Senna's track. Finish all three well enough and you might get the Ayrton Senna Super Licence (I have). (What, performed? — Ed.)

The original SMGP's graphics were outstanding, so sequels are unbelievable. With three addi-

tional tracks, and two modes of the World Championship, all this car needs is a battery back-up facility.

Surprise surprise, it has that as well. SMGP 1 owners may not be as thrilled with the game looking and feeling about the same. The initial enjoyment isn't there and with the same 16 world courses they won't get any extra mileage out of the game. New MD owners who've heard about SMGP should forget it and buy this now.

Chase him!

But you MS owners aren't left out. This version sees you competing on the standard 16 world courses, where the object is to beat Ayrton Senna at all costs.

Selected the World Championship mode and off you go. The track name and design appears onscreen and you'll be given Setting, Quality and Race options.

The Setting option changes various options on

Beelied up scrolling and better looking backdrops!



Get a load of the digitized photo on board MACP II. Arton Senna insisted on posing carefully for each of these, and didn't whiff! So who cares if he didn't want to look grumpy, the pic is a treat!



There's an awful lot of work gone into these. And boy, was it worth it. Taking these corners at high speed on the MD feels like a dream and the MD version is no slouch either! The only difference is the MD gives a true feeling of speed. The scrolling screen on both versions is excellent and the in-game effects are brilliant, especially on the MD. Commenting and digitizing Senna's voice is a great touch and you can make out the accents in there. Inai Controls are a cinch to pick up and there are more than enough options to get the most out of your machine. Gotta agree with Paul, I'm sorry to say! The MD version is the best of the two, but both are games well like hell!

ADAM



There's plenty to choose from in the opposition ranks. Check 'em out and take 'em to the limit!



GRAND PRIX 2

you can switch to transmission (six-speed or auto) and tyres (B or C compounds).

You must then qualify for the race otherwise you start 12th on the grid, too far behind Senna to catch him. You can have as many qualifying laps as you want.

Unfortunately the MD game doesn't show other cars on the starting grid, but your position is shown at the top of the screen.

Demon drapes

Each race has a certain amount of laps, depending on the circuit, ranging from four to six.

The top right-hand corner of the screen shows an aerial view of the course, your position marked in red, Senna's in yellow.

The password system is easy to use and overall this game is a clacker as well. Like the MD game, the graphics have been improved and the scrolling speeded up. The car handles brilliantly and cornering is great.

But it's very difficult. Senna's tough to catch and if you make one mistake, it's curtains.

Defeating him who already have 5840P may like to try it out before they buy. Other fans should get this as soon as possible.

PAUL



• PRODUCER: SEGA
• GEN: MD • MD: JULY
• MEMORY: 512K
• PLAYERS: 1
• PRICE: £34.99

Sf rating

PRESENTATION
• Graphics of Senna, very pleasant

VISUALS

• Superb scrolling, but slightly bland

SONICS

• Nice tune, but engine and effects

PLAYABILITY

• Easy to control but very tough

LASTABILITY

• Great fun, password system

88% FORCE
• Slightly Baster for slightly of the mark

• PRODUCER: SEGA
• GEN: MD • MD: JUNE
• MEMORY: 1024K
• PLAYERS: 1
• PRICE: £49.99

Sf rating

PRESENTATION

• Graphics of options, digitized voices

VISUALS

• Scrolling and scenery are PERFECT

SONICS

• In-game loop but great speech

PLAYABILITY

• Two modes, easy on beginner

LASTABILITY

• Can you beat those top times?

94% FORCE
• Better than the original in every way! Big fat good!



Reviewed!

CHAMPION OF EUROPE

'As sick as a parrot' and 'It's a funny old game' are footballing clichés ADRIAN PITT promises he'll never use. Nevertheless, 'it's a game of two 'alves and the lad done well, Saint'. Ade's 'over the moon' about CHAMPIONS. 'Anyone for tennis?' (Eh?! —Ed.)

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it's here at last, the game that's been typed more than Jason Donovan's sexuality (Whoop! He's not gay, honest!)

Previous games (ours included) screamed that *Champions Of Europe* would be the greatest Master System soccer game EVER. And by golly, I think us reviewing lads were right for once!

Okay, it's yet another soccer simulation, but two things make *Champions* stand out from the rest of the footy game squad: controllability and attention to detail.

The MS2 joystick isn't the easiest thing to use at the best of times, but after a while TeckMagik's 'instructive' control mechanism really comes to the fore — manoeuvring players is a real doddle.

Options by the bootload

The host end of the game's enormous! There's a fully animated opening sequence for a start, then the Russian spots a football, leaps out of his warmers and displays a few hair-raising (good?) risks at the trade.

Choose game length (three, five, eight or ten minutes each half), direction of play, windspeed and weather conditions. There's an extra time option and a list of eight intelligent referees.

(Incidentally, one has the surname of Heening! Any relation, Rob?)

The demo mode's great if you want a taste of things to come and if your goal scoring's a little stute, the practice section's well worth a look-in. It's a five penalty kick-off with alternate control between keeper and shooter. Shooting and saving are re-

lenger a hassle. A welcome inclusion indeed!

There are an amazing 34 teams to choose from. Each country's selected via a nifty little map of Europe. You can't read an 'A' level in Geography in fifteen things out 'cos on-screen messages keep you in touch with all things relevant!

Play against the Master System or a friend. All teams have their own individual strengths and weaknesses and a game between Germany and Malta, for example, could see those Maltese well and truly crushed! Yuck!

Nice one, Cyril!

Graphically, the pitch and players are top notch. Like many soccer games, you get an overhead view of the match, although in *Champions* it's angled at 75 degrees. No shots of

player's perms, thank heaven, though chests, legs and arms are out in force! Each sprite comes animation.

The pitch itself scrolls really well and the game doesn't slide down in the slightest when

there's a lot going on.

There are so many nice little touches that make *Champions Of Europe* a real winner. Take

the 'grit' feature for example — it's a godsend! When the ball's free-rolling there's no need clog up the pitch to chase it, press button (2) and your man goes into overdrive!

Tackles, trills and substitutions are great. Little speech bubbles pop out of player's mouths. 'Duch' (Allaugh!) and censored expletives appear when a man goes over the top! The ref waves his card and may send the instigator off. Watch as the guilty party surges gratefully! Great fun.

Airbuses a plenty and that's no lie! The referee's size here, there and everywhere calling out the score and time remaining. The turf around the goalsmouth gets roughed up when things get a frantic, just like the real thing.

The five-match tournament's a tough challenge. There's a huge on-on doing well 'cos you could be up against some of the finest teams in Europe — if not the world! You're kept up to date at all times with the latest match info. See if the opposition's cracking under the pressure!

Fantastic footie!

With extra time, sudden death penalty shootouts, a modular system for taking corners and the chance to change halves mid-game, *Champions Of Europe* has everything a footie fan could ever want from an MS game — and more!

After the initial period of teething in the control method, it's immensely playable. There's no

Has everything a footie fan could ever want from a MS

CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE



Yep! No argument from this corner. First glance at the opening sequences and you know you've got something a bit special here. Just look at the choice! Graphically, *Champions Of Europe's* damned tough to resist. Sure, it may take you a little while to handle the controls but, since you're in, this is one helluva smooth playing game. By giving the better 'real' teams more skills in the game it means you get a true-to-life playing experience, adding atmosphere and credibility to an already superb football blast. Keeping the series to a minimum during playing time helps with the pressure on the old tactical grey cells and, even though you never a get glintings of Jimmy Hill's chin, you ain't seen nothing like this on the MS before. 'We we go, we we go, we we go and all that' **CLAIRE**

The venue's set. All you've gotta do is pick your team and go for the glory!



Goal's the aim of the game! Get your mitts round the controls and start clicking them away!

● PRODUCER: TECHMAG
● CG: N/A ● MD: OUT NOW
● MEMORY: 256K
● PLAYERS: 1-3
● PRICE: £32.99

SF rating

PRESENTATION

● Tons of options, demo mode
VISUALS

● Great overhead view, good sprites

SONICS

● Nice intro tunes, basic game FX

PLAYABILITY

● Nice in-game touches

LASTABILITY

● 24 teams and tournaments

91% FORCE

● Just hits in the top ten best games on the MS.

confusion over which team's which, 16 colours have been used to supply the 34 countries with individual stripes.

Thankfully, these clever guys at TecMagh haven't gone overboard on the sound. There's a nice intro tune but during play sound's been left at basic spot FX — an in-game ditty would've suited things.

The game's got balls! The great tripping touches and element of humour that runs through-out add a great atmosphere.

I'm not a football freak and have only ever played in the terraces once in my life! The letters B, G, R, L, M, G were splattered all over my face! *Champions Of Europe's* far from boring and will make Mega Drive owners everywhere green with envy 'cos there isn't a decent 16-bit soccer game around. Congratulations, TecMagh, you've nailed a good un' here!

AGE



Berni gets his bit on and turns on the style on the opening screens.



THE UEFA CUP IS NOW SEEN ON TV!

Tune in with SEGA FORCE and TECMAGIK!



© 1987 UEFA

ACHIEVING YOUR GOAL!

It's easy! No cryptic questions, torturing teachers or overly convoluted this time around.

Complete the phrase below in no more than 25 unscramblingly wonderful words and if our referees think your entry is the wildest, you'll have that Game Gear, TV Tuner and booty bag well and truly in the net!

Don't forget the runners-up prizes, too — got scribbles? Or should that be dribbles?



A well kickin' GAME GEAR, TV TUNER, exclusive FOOTBALL BOOTY BAG and copies of the awesome CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE could be yours in our totally stupendous TecMagik giveaway!

The UEFA cup's upon us, folks! Time to sit in front of the box with your heart, woolly hat and nifle and cheer on your favorite team. En-ger-fund! En-ger-fund! En-ger-fund! (Anyone found cheating for Unipopoland's looking for a knuckle sandwich?)

But what's this? (It's got a good beat!) The rest of the household are hogging the telly! Mother's watching Family Fortunes downstairs, Dad's heavily into Ganderer's World upstairs (sad beggar), Woe is you! You're gonna miss the UEFA Cup!

I must admit, they've got brains at TecMagik, too naffly little Mike Hemming (European Product Manager extraordinary) has come up with a well wicked wheeze! Why not watch UEFA under the bed clothes on your very own Game Gear? — complete with TV tuner at a cost of Oh yes!

You won't miss a thing! Every fable, every foul, every goal displayed in glorious Technicolour! And what's more, our winner also receives a nifty little booty bag, bursting to bits with UEFA goodies.

Five runners-up each receive a copy of the brand new, termagant: *Champions Of Europe* booty size, the official game of the UEFA Cup. Check out the review in this ish — it's a stunner!

That all-important phrase!

I wanna stay tuned to the UEFA Cup with SEGA FORCE and TecMagik because

Send your entry to: **AS SEEN ON TV COMPO, SEGA FORCE, Express Impact, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JH**, to arrive no later than **11 June 1993**. Good luck!



Garry on padding

Accessories are nice. When you're carrying a delicate item like a Game Gear, a case becomes damn necessary. One of the best is the Game Gear Carryall from Acclaim Software.

These folks took their popular hard case for Game Boy and redesigned it for our colour champion — rendering it in a much cooler black. The result is a sleek looking, tough plastic shell that makes transporting a GG both easy and safe.

The case can securely hold a Game Gear, a pair of in-ear headphones, link cable, nine games, spare batteries, instruction manuals and a power adapter. With an adjustable strap, what else could you ask for?

Maybe a hot new controller for the Mega Drive? Funny you should mention that: how about Acclaim's Power Clutch SG. It features a nice lot joystick, four [A], [B] and [C] buttons, and individual Turbo control. Each button can independently fire up to 20 shots per second, indicated by LEDs, and there's a slow-mo feature as well. But time to cry — it's only available in the States at the moment.

Go figure

When toy makers discovered boys wouldn't accept the term 'doll', they became action figures.

In the console world, there are mostly offshoots of Nintendo games and licenses — but Sega-based toys are starting to show up as well. Right now it's mostly Sonic, though Kid Chameleon isn't far off — and the popularity of the system should ensure more see the light of day.

Of course, you needn't restrict yourself to those Sega action figures, you could go for just about anything, from movie-oriented items like *Alien* and *Dick Tracy* up to *Midnight* or *The Little Mermaid*.

For more info, try the definitive and recently updated action figure book, *Tamara's Price Guide to Action Figures* (Tamara Publishing, Dayton, Ohio 45408, ISBN 0-914250-11-7). It retails at \$39 retail here and is a bit of fun.

And yes, it does have sections on



Two Crude Dudes, from Doto East. Good the crude ones to the Mad Scientist and defeat his plans for world domination.

Deep within the rank depths of the Palace Of Doom, The Black Marshal holds court over the realm of video gaming. His aim: to collect the full set of Star Wars action figures.

Another stone has been turned in the ever-expensive story of law. In this case it's *Accolade*, who've notified one and all that the American Committee for Interoperable Systems (ACIS) has filed an amicus brief supporting the legality of the reverse-engineering process at issue in *Accolade's* litigation with *Sega* (yay what?) — Etc. Simply put (don't you just love lawyer talk?), *Sega* don't want *Accolade* to produce *Genesis* (MD) games unless they're as looser, but *Accolade* don't see this as a requirement.

ACIS is an organization of computer companies who favour strong intellectual property protection but, according to Peter Choy, Chairman of ACIS, 'are concerned that an inproper extension of the scope of protection under copyright law will impede innovation and inhibit fair competition in the computer industry.'



Everything you ever wanted for your Game Gear but were afraid to risk? With these nifty add-ons, all you hand-held needs can get to grips with your 8-bit buddy.



Mortal Kombat, *Golden Axe II*, but third parties tend to do what they want. Even Sega's moving in this direction, as seen from the hard graphics used for *Holyfield Boxing*.

Each to his own — there are plenty of folks who don't want to see pixelated blood splattered on their TV, or have to jump flumbly and push reflexes all the time. It's all a matter of taste.

Sounds good, Marshall

Speaking of which, I'm pretty excited about seeing Swamp Thing for the Mega Drive. For those not in the know, this is a walking vegetable, of sorts, created by DC Comics a while back. He's been enjoying on-off popularity due to a live action series and more recently a sanitized cartoon show.

The demo running at the *Consumer Electronics Show* last January looked good. Swampy moving about a dense swamp with all the gail and dark effects of the television show. It was due for release in late March but I never showed. Now the legends, *Marshall*, say the game's on hold indefinitely. When we know more, so will you.

Every time you turn around, another high-tech development's in the works (shows that somebody's thinking, right?). This time it's digital signal processing.

DSP was once the province of extremely expensive, top-end equipment, but it's coming to computers via a two-chip set produced by Texas Instruments. These chips can make noises generated by appliances, mimic the acoustics of concert halls and improve cellular phones.

But where it gets exciting for us is in multimedia. Using DSP chips will create not only high-end video but also stereo quality sound combined with fax, modem and answering machine services. They're also partly responsible for the recently shown AIXT videophone, which uses conventional phonelines to provide a six frames per second video signal.

Multimedia and CD-ROM technology's fast moving into our gaming world, but right now the CD box is just another storage medium. When we start getting DSP chips in there as well, we'll be closer to the "real-time video" experience as gamers want.



Slaughter Sport (also known as *Fallout*). A one-on-one brawler 'em up with sick graphics.

Left: He's such a cool dude, eh Kid? What I'd give to have a pair of Raybans like these!

The Power Clutch from *Academics*. With all those buttons you'll need the manual for this one.

important characters from *Dexter*, *Koko*, *Star Wars*, *Planet Of The Apes*, *Clash Of The Titans* and *Duke of Hazard*. Personally I prefer Pee-Wee Herman.

The action figure business gets everywhere. For example, The Addams Family breakfast cereal's a big hit and hard to find in New York. Not because it's so delicious, but because one of the flash-light figures is polystyrene-wrapped to the front of each box.

Each is built plastic, about 5" tall and hand-colored. Thing, Lurch and it are nicely rendered but Uncle Fester's the best, grinning intensely as he clutches his glowing light bulb. The complete set is considered a collector's item — but just getting an intact is the trick because the flash lights keep getting stolen from the shelves!

Down and gritty

Last issue we had a lot of fun talking about hidden levels and neat places in *Aid*





**Advance
Play!** 

ATOMIC RUNNER

You can't fool him. MARSHAL ROSENTHAL knows a good one when he sees it and Data East's spinning, somersaulting, bounding blaster certainly fits the bill. We Force-scrolled him on his way.



Fast action, loads of it and tons of ugly things to take on and blow apart. A shoot-'em-up, yeah, but a really good one, that's Atomic Runner.

Let's get the story out of the way. You're young Chainov. Your father — dead. Your sister — kidnapped. Who's at the root of this evil? The multi-cousin Deathatarians (the relation is you-know-what, ancient beings who once ruled the Earth).

So beneath the sands of Egypt you suit up in a bio-suit, festooned with weapons and power. The badasses capture you, knock you around a little, but somehow you manage to escape. How are we getting going...

This game's got the most macabre graphics I've ever seen. There's so much detail mashed together here that everything looks bizarre and ugly. The action's based on Earth but it seems the Deathatarians have brought their own interior

designer to restyle the landscape (how sweet).

Since young Chainov is a small figure, it's not always easy to spot him unless he's firing. But since you'll be needing to do this for most of the game, that problem's taken care of.

Sound effects echo the visuals, basic sounds but so many of them your ears start to hurt!

Controls are easy but do some awesome things. The Option screen allows you to select the difficulty level, number of lives and continues, and rapid fire.

Weaponry — now that's important. Chainov's pretty puny at the beginning of each life but can collect power-ups to increase shooting range, bullet spread, even the size of the shell.

Destructive power can be increased too, at the rate of fire and jump height. Each power-up can be increased up to three times, giving pretty sweet all-round defenses.

You want weapons? You've got 'em! Metal

balls (Moving Stars), laser beams (old hat these days but still effective), L-shaped boomerangs, homing missiles and the very powerful (if short ranged) spiked balls.

However, each extra weapon has its own problems. Like the boomerang, the laser has limited range, and the homing missile's fairly weak.

My favorite weapon's the light ring. This little baby encircles you with a vortex of light that destroys everything it touches, and can be increased using power-ups. Nice fat attack zone it covers, too.

While you're at it, grab a few of the special coins, worth 2000 or 5000 points.

Pushy scroll

Atomic Runner scrolls to the right in the conventional manner, with some really nice parallax effects behind. I could sit, when you feel like stopping, the scrolling doesn't. This rapid forward scrolling means you have to keep moving. You can stop for a second or two if you must, but soon the screen pushes you on.

Most of these alien types are easily destroyed

**The Deathatarians
have brought their own
interior designer**



RUNNING THROUGH THE LEVELS...

Stage One: Out of the Atomic Lab and entered

Stage Two: Through the Mutant Plant Zone and the caverns nearby

Stage Three: One of the aliens' main bases in the Mayan Jungle

Stage Four: Egypt isn't for sightseeing right now, nor the sand for sunbathing

Stage Five: ET's lair in a treasure room filled with big bucks. Bet you'd trade the lot for one decent mule

Stage Six: Siberia's plenty barren, the snow plenty cold

Stage Seven: New York, Alien embryos don't say good things. Time to clean up the town



with a blast or two, but there's just so many of them, big and ugly, diving in from above or behind. Some even have shields that block attacks — they give chase if you bump off the shield!

Alien Runner features such beauties as Belle the mechanized bird, who thinks your head is a nice juicy mouse, the Fan, insect-like alien with shields, and Pin-Bee, an armoured flying insect. The deadened and dastardly ugly *Radikalusai* carry power-ups, special weapons and plasma guns, and we kinda like the Ro-bot which masquerades as a friendly rabbit.

While just about everything's deadly to touch, you can sometimes avoid death by leaping directly on the head of an enemy. Often this destroys the enemy, it is Mario, but at other times it just rocks them off, prompting them to fire blindly.

Alien furniture

Then there's inanimate objects to contend with. Blocking walls are easily blasted apart — but if they make contact you're dog meat. The same goes for strange devices and what I like to call

'alien furniture', huge machines of no purpose other than to make life more miserable.

These include the Killer Black, a flying machine that attacks from above and the Levitator that levitates and waits for you to pass underneath before trying to hit you from behind.

Though strange looking, *Alien Runner* has hot animation and speedy gameplay. There's a lot of aliens onscreen at times but control response doesn't slow down. If you know what's good for you, just concentrate on dealing out death and destruction for a good cause and let the CPU handle the rest.

Jumping and spinning around like a pinwheel's fun — and lets you shoot in all directions quickly. You can shoot backwards while running, jumping or turning somersaults.

If you're getting the idea this game makes you frantic, you're right!

Even the music, which should stay in the background, seems to provide a subliminal rush — all you want to do is *Alien Runner* is blow everything up. Now. Fast. Completely. Totally. Manic, man!

BARBARAL



THE COMPUTER GAMES OLYMPIAD 92



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REGISTRATION £10.00

Final entries by June 1st 1992

Applicants will be notified of their particular venue and dates after this. If the allocated date is not suitable then you will receive a full refund.

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Regional Heats will start in June and continue through to the middle of August.

Entrants will be a minimum of 11 years old
Maximum no. of Competitors 10,000

START OF A NATIONAL COMPUTER LEAGUE

Even if you don't want to play in the Competition, how about getting involved in a National Computer Games League?

Please use this registration form to send us some details of yourself and the sort of games you like to play. You will be contacted in July with more details of the league which will start in September.

Telephone 0801 505194 for updated daily information.

All calls are charged at 30p per min cheap rate, 40p per min at all other times.

Also available is updated information on venues and the current numbers of people taking part. Updated information on games to be played in the Competition. Updated information on Prizes.

If you wish to pay by Access or Visa, a dedicated number will be furnished on this line shortly.

All Competitors will receive a Certificate of Entrance

Spectator Tickets are available for the Regional Heats at a cost of £3 per person.

Finals Booked for Friday September 25th at Wembley.

This date is not definite however, and we are looking for a suitable London venue for Saturday 26th of September.

ENTRANCE FORM

Title and Name:

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address:

Daytime Tel No:

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Age: Occupation:

Left or Right Handed:

Preferred time to play: Evenings/Weekends*

Please name below your first and second choice games for the two categories in which you wish to enter.

Game 1:

Model 1: Hi-Score:

Game 2:

Model 2: Hi-Score:

Game 3:

Model 3: Hi-Score:

Please place a third game title in case we cannot place you in one of your first two choices.

Please tick any of the following as applicable:-

1. ☐

I hereby enclose my cheque/Postal Order for the sum of £10.00 as my registration with the Olympiad Committee for the 1992 Computer Games Olympiad.

2. ☐

Please find my details enclosed and put me forward for the Computer Games League to start this year.

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Please find enclosed a cheque/Postal Order for the sum of £..... in respect of spectator tickets (at £3.00 each) which we would like for the Regional Heat to be held in

Signature:

Date:

(Note this form can be photocopied)

PLEASE REMEMBER, ALL MONEY IS REFUNDABLE IF YOU ARE REGISTERED TO AN UNSUITABLE GAME, DATE OR VENUE.

ALL TRADEMARKS RECOGNISED

*Delete where applicable (leave blank if either time slot is not acceptable)



CLAIRE MORLEY's been there, seen it, done it, worn the T-shirt and spat it out. But she ain't ever met anything like this mean Tazzy mother!

Now I'm not one for going over the top... but what a brilliant game this is! It's like playing a cartoon and just as much!

If you're old enough, you'll know the Tasmanian Devil was a vicious little scouter from the Warner Bros cartoons, a total lunatic who usually ended up being chumped by Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and the rest.

Now Sega have brought the natty critter to your screens in a superb multi-level platform romp! It features Taz as the hero and he's fun, fast and fantastic to control.

The storyline goes something like this: On the island of Tasmania (where else?) there lived a race of giant prehistoric birds, whose eggs the Devils lived on until the birds disappeared.

Now it's up to you to travel across the island in search of these delicious eggs — there's even a rumour of a lost valley where the last of the giant birds now live!

Switch on your machine and you're greeted by

the familiar Sega logo. From out of nowhere comes a wild whirlwind, which stops to reveal itself as Taz! He picks up the letter 'S' and says: the damn thing! Good start!

An options screen allows you to choose the difficulty level and explains the controls. Press Start and Goated Taz appears, waiting on about the mission to Taz (and family) until he does.

At fifteen our devilish friend looks about the eggs he smashes through the wall and gets on the hunt!

At the start of every level you're shown a map of the island, which also charts your journey. You begin on the beach, and like all the levels, its background's gonna blow you away! They're straight out of Gears/Gears and feature weird Tas Away socks and boulders twisted into all sorts of shapes.

Red hot chilli peppers

Not along at normal speed then watch what happens when you press [B]. Taz turns into a mini whirlwind and flies across the screen at high speed! He's harder to control in this form but it's useful for killing monsters and long distance jumps. The visual effect is simply superb.

Even when Taz stands he's good to look at because he hates being kept waiting. What a bleedin' idiot! He stands there, arms folded, tapping his foot, then lets out a fanfaring growl! Carry on with the game if you know what's good for you!

Taz races across the levels, killing monsters, avoiding pitfalls and collecting objects to use.

These include a chilli pepper (for flamebreather breath), water bottles (for extra energy) and stars (becomes temporarily indestructible).

Various opponents stand in his way and can be dealt with in different ways. Spin only them, eat them (just watch those greedy graphics!) or destroy them with your fiery breath. Eating bombs isn't such a good idea — they give our poor devilish friend indigestion!

However, if you're invulnerable it won't hurt a bit. The expressions on his face when he does these things have to be seen to be believed. The frowns, screams and grins like a demon!

and that! Taz kangaroo hops across yawning chasms and gigantic water spouts (which can also be used as platforms) until he reaches the end of the first level. Things to avoid include spiders, large-mouthed creatures (jelly-mouthed frogs? Nah — Eek) and spiked pits.

Don't worry if you die. Not only are there loads of continues, Taz can restart at convenient points if he reaches the statues dotted around the place.

Laser fire? Rotating blades? Acme!

At the end of this first level you'll encounter a guardian boss in the form of two boards driving a pick-up truck. What else would you expect in a cartoon game? Spinning into the truck from behind will soon deal with them, then it's on to the next level!

The Acme building's next. (You must remember Acme? They were responsible for all the weird

Advance Play!

TAZMANIA



devices like Wile E. Coyote's rocket-powered roller-skates!) inside you'll face a barrage of laser fire (easily dodged), rotating blades and fiery farnaces! The platforms often appear as conveyor belts which whisk you to your doom if you're not careful. Remember to switch off electricity supplies or Taz gets his whiskers singed! The best way to avoid death is to speed through this level, destroying everything in your path.

However, you do have to use your noddle to solve problems as you go along! Don't trust anything that you see and remember there's only one way through every level.

Four-colour wonderland

Further levels include an Arctic scene (watch Taz slide across the ice), a jungle (complete with man-eating plants) and a mine. This level's hilarious and shows how crazy and original this game is!

Taz has to climb into a mine car, wearing his safety helmet, and travel deep underground (as in the second Indiana Jones movie). It's brilliant fun and requires split-second timing.

I won't spoil it by saying any more, but trust me, this game is gonna knock your bloodier socks off. You'll come back to it time and time again. The sprites are eye-popping, it sounds good, there are loads of cartoon effects and it makes you hungry for more! There are plenty of levels to explore, puzzles to solve and battles to be fought.

Fans of the cartoon won't be disappointed, neither will those who enjoy fast platform adventures. You'll be hooked by this funny fard when you first yourself transported to this four-colour wonderland and won't want to get her down.

Don't panic! Taz will be back when we give you the full lowdown on the best next month!

CLARE



A well 'hard little devil you may be, but if you don't time your jumps very carefully that pop'll still make things hard on you! Pick your moment and go for it!



MANIA





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Game	NEW	USED	NEW	USED
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Game	NEW	USED	NEW	USED
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Michael "Air" Jordan, Chicago Bulls' star and man of the people. A man who gets paid horrendous amounts of money for bouncing a ball around a court and throwing it through a net ten feet from the ground — not to mention various aerial stunts that earned him his nickname.

Larry Bird, the Boston Celtics' old timer. Amazing accuracy makes him the best three-point shooter in the NBA (National Basketball Association). Take these scoring tools, put them in a game and what do you get? Jordan vs Bird, the latest sport sim from the ever-to-beleaved guys at Electronic Arts.

It's more than one game — it's three! As well as the one-on-one games there are two events which allow you to test out the fabulous abilities of each character.

Around the angles

First there's the Bird, famous for his three-point shot. So you get to take his place (surprise surprise!) in a three-point contest.

You have 30 seconds to get scores as many baskets as possible, throwing five balls from five different angles. Each successful shot is worth one point, apart from the last ball which is worth two, giving a possible maximum of 30 points.

The controls for this part of the game are slightly awkward and take a bit of practice to master. Button [R] picks the ball from the stack, [B] triggers the jump and [C] must be pressed at the right time to sink the ball. Although annoying, the system does get easier after a few goes.

Bank 'em

The next (non-Jordan) is Michael Jordan's specialty, the slam-dunk. You take part in a slam-dunk contest, taking your pick of three styles of slam from ten available and scoring as many points as possible.

The court's shown from the side, Jordan poised on the edge of the "D". Pressing [R] starts his run. A coloured bar on the floor shows where to begin the shot by hitting [B]. Holding [B] performs the selected move and should be released at just the right time to score.

Each dunk's awarded up to ten points by each of the judges, so 30 points are possible for each shot. After you've had your fill of those two events,

it's time for the main game — the one-on-one of the game's subtitle. As the name suggests, it's just you against the computer (or second player).

The rules are slightly different to normal basketball, the action taking place in only half the court. The aim's simply to manoeuvre around your opponent and try to score a basket.

Each basket inside the three-point line's worth one point, each outside the line's worth two points (so why's it called the three-point line?)

—[B] One major rule change means that if you collect a rebound from your opponent, you have to clear the ball out again before you can attempt a shot yourself. When possession begins, the shot clock counts

down from 24 seconds. If you fail to shoot the referee blows his whistle and the ball goes to your rival. If you collect a rebound the clock automatically starts counting down from 24 seconds again.

The fatigue factor

There are two ways of winning the game, depending on which type of game you choose. You can play a second option, the first player to score 11, 15 or 21 points declared the winner, or you can play for periods of two, five, eight or 12 minutes, the highest score deciding the winner.

The number of colours are up to EA's usual high standards, with the choice of arcade play, where your player never tires, or a simulation where a fatigue factor makes a real difference. This is shown by a power gauge at the back of the court. You can take a time-out to regain power, but to deny your opponent.

There are four skill levels — Recreational, Varsity, College and Professional — varying from easy to almost impossible.



JORDAN Super On

Reviewed!



The two BIG names in basketball, one-on-one. Exciting stuff or a pile of dribble? PAUL MELLERICK, renowned for his bouncing skills (cheques, usually), lines up for the shot. Missing by a clear two feet, he groans, swears a lot then pulls up a seat in front of the MD.



Keeping a steady hand's the score of the game, but you've got less than a minute to sink those balls!



A little mid-game entertainment is provided, but you'll be skipping through it before too long.



Electronic Arts have come up with some real corkers of late. Unfortunately, *Jordan vs Bird* is my least favourite of their titles, and 'cool sports' titles are usually their forte. Nevertheless, presentation is of a high standard with plenty of options to tweak and nice bits of commentary. As Paul's said, the two guys are blocky at times, but overall, graphics aren't too much of a disaster. Gameplay's where *Jordan vs Bird* falls down — it's just so BORING! One-on-one's not a good basis for a game. Who in their right mind would choose 12 minutes duration for each of four periods?! The mini-games are easy to master after a while and are only a mild distraction from one-on-one. *Jordan vs Bird* is the black sheep of the EA family. Better luck next time, chapel!

ADP

JORDAN VS BIRD One-on-One



Another option lets you decide who has the ball after a basket's been scored. Loser's Cuts gives the ball to the opposition after a basket's been made. Winner's Cuts awards it to the scorer.

You can also turn the instant replay function to manual, operating it via the pause menu, and you can turn the in-game music off, thankfully.

Nintendo graphics?!

I love ESN spot sims — my two fave games are EA Hockey and John Madden's 92 — so when they release a new game I have more than a passing interest. On top of that, I do like a bit of basketball, so I was well looking forward to this game!

The usual brilliant presentation's here but with so many options to change, reading the manual's a must. The controls can always dive straight in and play but won't get as much from the game.

(Graphics are the first thing that you notice in a game, and boy, do you notice them!) One word springs to mind: Nintendo (slang for crap — f*ck).

Although very colourful, the sprites are vaguely defined and very blocky. Not content with that, they're also short of animation frames. Great

times were had by all when Michael Jordan did his little shuffle in front of the basket ("Where's the zipper frame, Mike?").

The only decent pieces of animation are for the slam dunks, with the added touch of flash cameras in the audience.

Unusually for an EA title, sounds're dull and irritating. Definitely one for the Kyle fans among you.

Nowhere to run

The real trouble with the one-on-one game is the way it's executed: badly. Holding down button [A] makes both you and the computer player run.

Don't get me wrong, the computer isn't hard to beat, but with only half the court and no other players involved, the action becomes very repetitive and tedious.

Although the other two (novelty) events provide some interest, they have no bearing on the skills you need in the game and after a few practice plays they become nauseating, to say the least.

All in all, ESN have produced their first dire game and even basketball fans should avoid hell wide of this.

PAUL



Some of the doc-dunk options are easier than others, but don't forget the judges know that too!



Play your specialties and mount up those points. Paul's top score is 148 so far, so ditch that up!



PRODUCED BY ELECTRONIC ARTS
 CO: N/A MS: N/A
 MEMORY: 512K
 PLAYERS: 1-2
 PRICE: £29.99

SF Rating

PRESENTATION
 • Ending options, two commentators

VISUALS
 • Large, colorful sprites, jerky animation

SONICS
 • Annoying in-game music, okay FX

PLAYABILITY
 • Slow and repetitive

LASTABILITY
 • Three events but ultimately boring

57% FORCE
 • The weakest game from EA's EA Games series



DAVID ROBINSON

Supreme Court



'Aaaargh! With all these basketball games, I'm fast running out of things to say!' **PAUL MELLERICK's** dribbling again...

The time it's Sega who've lined up a basketball game to put us from our hard-won couch. What can they do to spice it up? Read on.

David Robinson's a big basketball star in the States. And when I say big, I mean BIG. Very tall and built like a truck sh— outtaaa! You don't mess with David (even if your name's Goldilocks).

This time we've got a no-nonsense basketball simulation with all the rules and regulations of the real thing. But the perspective's very different.

Viewed from a grandstand position, the court's tipped at an angle of 45 degrees. To add to the confusion, if tips is in John Madden's, so when in possession you're always running up the court.

The choice is yours...

Options abound in this game. Where would we be without them?

You can change the length of the periods, choose a three- or five-man team, select a fast or instant flip-shot, play against the computer or another (and how many) in efforts.

On top of all that, you can play an exhibition match or take part in the tournament. Choose

your team from one of four available and play each team once — the winner's the team with the most points (how strange!) — (Ed).

The small character sprites are very similar to Super Real Basketball, as is the animation, except it's been slightly updated and made smoother.

In-game music and sound effects are simple, vaguely interesting but really out of place.

Or is it?

To cap it off, the gameplay's useless.

You control your player with the D-pad and pass using button [A]. Then you immediately pass up to the other end of the court, whether you want to or not, and must try to score with [B].

The control system alters when you're in defence, button [B] blocking and [C] switching the player under your control.

The play switches very quickly and gives a hurried sense to matches but the gamers just too awkward to control. The computer teams are okay but after a while they're too easy to beat.

This game could have been really good. Instead, it's simply run of the mill.

PAUL





Reviewed!



Lakers, Pistons, Celtics, Mavericks. What a load of old Bulls. Basketball, the only game where being tall, lanky and skinny is a great advantage. So we thought we'd get PAUL MELLERICK to play it.



ARCH RIVALS

For those not in the know, *Arch Rivals* is a great con-op from about two years ago. Not widely known as an arcade machine, it was inevitable that a console/computer version would come from it in the end.

Arch Rivals is a one-on-one basketball game with a few rule changes and various handicaps thrown in. Actually it's two-on-two, but your on-court player is controlled by the computer. You use him to defend your basket when you're up the other end of the court. Fourteen passes off him and he assists in scoring.

You select your player or from eight characters available and your computer controlled assistant from the seven then remaining.

As you'd expect, each player has special attributes that help you decide who to use. For instance, Tyronne's a defensive giant who excels at

blocking and Virnie's fast, sure-footed and great at the basket. I know who I picked...

Over the moon

Arch Rivals is simplicity itself to control. On the Master System, button [1] passes to and from the computer, button [2] shoots.

The Mega Drive version works slightly differently. Button [A] is used for shooting,

[B] for passing, and when you're attacking, [C] does nothing.

But when you've lost possession, the controls alter slightly.

On the defensive you can use all sorts of dirty tricks to try and get the ball back — the dither the better.

Press [A] to jump, useful at the basket to stop the opponent scoring. Button [B] attempts a steal, but also punches your opponent to the floor (that's the one I like! —EB).

He can fall on possession... or his shorts off

But button [C] is the gem. It controls your dive towards your opponent. If you make contact, one of two things can happen: he can fall down and lose possession... or you pull his shorts down! Very childish but one helluva laugh.

While these extras may seem confusing and completely useless, they actually have the totally opposite effect, making *Arch Rivals* great fun to play.

Games spread over four quarters of five minutes, your coach gives hints and tips after each. At full time, you can sit back and enjoy the cheerleaders show.

Although the graphics and sound on both systems are up to scratch, *Arch Rivals* is one of those games which rises or falls on its control system and how the computer implements your commands.

The MS version isn't as well-developed as the MD. It has all the graphics and playability but no presentation screens or two-player mode, as yet. That being the case, we felt it would be unfair to review it (unlike SEGA PPG, who reviewed it anyway...).

PAUL

HOUSE'S BEST					
PLAYER	AGE	HT	WT	EXP	SCORE
PAUL	24	56	170	04	04
DAVE	24	61	180	04	04
BILL	30	70	190	08	08
BOB	25	75	195	05	05
LUC	24	65	182	03	03



The MJ game, on the other hand, has all the looks, sound and appeal of the coin-op. The graphics are very cartoon-like and go well with the action theme. In-game sound is limited to grunts and shouts of "I'm open" or "Pass it up" but they're very clear.

The gameplay isn't quite up to the arcade, though. The screen doesn't cover as much of the court as it could and it's easy to get confused over who's who.

One annoying factor is the scoring method, not as well animated as the arcade. Scoring is very hit or miss for human players, unlike the computer opponent who scores from anywhere.

Arch Rivals will go down a storm as a two-player competition but all you teens out there should leave well alone.

PAUL



Watch out for the fat git in the stripes, his word is law. It's just a crying shame you can't pull his pants down too!



What a sporty lesson! A couple of hours ago I was the greatest thing to hit the arcade world since artificial turf! Now I turn my hand to basketball! What an impression! Arch Rivals isn't much cop to play — at first. The control mechanism's a little awkward and I got confused between my main and the computer player. After half an hour's hard slog, however, things started to gel. The graphics are fine, a touch cartoony and extremely well animated. Scrolling's a little jerky, but then it was on the arcade machine. The soundtrack's above average and the speech adds a certain amount of atmosphere. I quite liked the animated sequences between halves — those cheerleaders sure know how to wiggle their hips! Arch Rivals didn't wow me for too long. Like Paul, I advise you to play it with a friend.

ADAM

ALS

If you're anywhere near the opposition's half and you're wondering what the ball is do next, it's always worth having a long shot. The ball may not look close, but you'll be surprised how wide the basket can be!



• PRODUCED BY: FLYING EDGE
 • DEV: TBA • MS: JUNE
 • MEMORY: 512K
 • PLAYERS: 1 OR 2
 • PRICE: £29.99

Sf rating

PRESENTATION

• Fine players, too many

VISUALS

• Arcade cartoon perfection

SONICS

• Slightly old but, nice-speech

PLAYABILITY

• Awkward at first, but stick with it

LASTABILITY

• If you've got some friends you'll be OK

86% FORCE

• Slightly better for one, good for two





Reviewed!



It's a classic. In other words — OLD! It's joined the Arcade Blockbuster range and PAUL MELLERICK's joined the Tuffy Club!

Turns the Double Dragon coin-op! Sport many a barked-off afternoon with the Lee brothers trying to rescue the love of their life (or really! — Ed).

The original coin-op was one of the first simultaneous two-player beat-'em-ups, with loads of different moves and opponents to battle against.

Better still, when (or if) you completed the five missions, you could either rescue the girl or fight your mate for her! Brilliant stuff and guaranteed to lose you friends by the truckload.

So, the Mega Drive game's twice, and after a lot of musing about with release dates.

Bellicose are about to get it on the shelves.

If you don't know the scenario, you're not missing much. Jimmy and Billy Lee have had their girlfriend kidnapped, and even though she can't make up her mind which one to go out with (far), these boys want her back!

Ambitious lads

Right lads, these, as they decide to take on the entire underworld! You have to guide them through the levels to Mr. Yin the one who wants to be with your Big, who's got the get.

Now it's not saying these guys ain't streetwise or tough. They ain't afraid to give someone a good kicking and they mean business. Trouble is, so does Mr. Yin, and his heavies are out to damage Jimmy and Billy before they come looking for him.

The usual assortment of baseball-batting thugs and knife-throwing jimps are lining up to send you to the nearest classically named. Luckily Jimmy and Billy have a few tricks and tactics of their own; it's up to you to find them.

They have the usual punch, kick and jump buttons (which are redemptive) but using combinations of two buttons triggers a special 'threat' move. Start fighting dirty! It's the only way, though with great moves like the elbow punch and reverse jumping kick it's wise to put in lots of practice before you seriously tackle Mr. Yin.

Spot on!

Although the game (like the arcade machine) there's a section missing from it, but it's only small and doesn't detract from the game.

Otherwise it's a spot-on conversion, both graphically and sonically. All the colour and animation of the sprites are there, as are the various grunts and effects.

Although not parallax, the scenery's identical to the coin-op and includes delights like holes in bridges, bottomless pits and rush lanes to



DOU

get your butt up. The in-game tune is a slightly warped version of the arcade and pleasant enough on its own. But it's nicely backed up by various FX when you throw a knife or chuck someone over your shoulder!

The best thing about the conversion is the amazing playability — it feels as if you're in an arcade. And with the simultaneous two-player option, you can try and reach the end with your partner then beat each other's guts! Dead smart, this — provides just as much excitement as it ever did.

Latency? What's that?

Well, 'cos the game's so close to the coin-op, it falls down in the latency stakes. My first go was me all through all the levels without a problem (except for the odd hole) from beating up Mr. Yin.

Yes, I've played and beaten the arcade coin-op, but everybody who played the M.D. game found it easy. Even Adrian got right to Mr. Yin on his first go! He did die there, but then he never did like a confrontation, the poor dear!

I can't see anybody not beating the game within a week. Even though £30's a fair price, it's still a bit steep on the value for money front.

Another one for the rental shelves, I think.

PAUL

You could either rescue the girl or fight your mate for her!



Okay! It's tough to game-break away! By 4:30 on Monday afternoon I've usually had three nervous breakdowns and a cerebral arrest. Those games are too rock-solid for a nice broke like me! But then again, I'd rather have 'em challenging than too bloody easy. Double Dragon's a cinch! (Soreth!) I can't claim to have beaten the Sega European Champ, but on first play of DD I made it to the final level. Either Battletech have made one helluva huge cock-up or I'm the next Paul Mollerist! (Heaven help us!) —G.D. Okay, the graphics are above average, animation's fine and sound's good, but that doesn't make up for the absolutely appalling gameplay. The coin-up was relatively easy, too — perhaps a few original touches could've been added to make it more entertaining? Double Dragon won't find its way into my collection, you can bet your butt on that!

ADW



Creeping around a football bot is great for your ego and you can let big, black monsters do, well.



DOUBLE DRAGON



This is the options page, but changing this just makes it mean that over.



• PRODUCER: BALLISTIC
• CG: K/A • MS: GUT (SEGA)
• MEMORY: 512K
• PLAYERS: 1 OR 2
• PRICE: £39.99

Sf rating

PRESENTATION

• Nice, brief and small cutscenes

VISUALS

• Good on to the final up, as expected

SONICS

• Nice tune and good FX

PLAYABILITY

• Easy to play and two can run

LASTABILITY

• Good examples with tough & durable

43% FORCE

• A good looking bot will last as long as that Billy's wanker!

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The Pittstop

**Playing
Tips!**



If ya head needs a service, ya see a shrink. Ya console needs an MOT, ya take it to game surgeon. **ADRIAN PITT's** yer man. A bloke with a huge big end! He's turbo charged and fuel injected. His dipstick's poised and ready for action...

Those who say it's wrongy to cheat are hypocrites! I can't believe they've never scrawled the answers to the biology multiple choice exams paper on their shirt cuffs, or the back of Murray Hill's wrappers, for that matter.

So when it comes to hints and tips,

this is the place to be! (Don't be embarrassed if you're struggling — come outta the closet! We've no inhibitions here!) Let it all hang out! And if anyone bullies you 'cos you need my help, pop their name and address on a postcard and send it to Father Random!

THE PITT STOP WORKSHOP

Altered Beast (MS)	37
Altered Beast (MS)	39
Alien Kid Mycra World (MS)	39
Arnold Palmer's Golf (MS)	37
Arrow Flash (MS)	37
Batman (MS)	37
Columns (MS)	36
Demigiant (MS)	38
Desert Strike (MS)	39
E-SWAT (MS)	36
Fantasy Zone (MS)	39
Obitex 'n' Streets (MS)	37
Golden Axe (MS)	38
Grenade X (MS)	38
Gynoug (MS)	39
Handball (MS)	39
James Bond (MS)	37
John Madden's Football (MS)	39
Maver (MS)	38
Moonwalker (MS)	37
Ninja (MS)	39
Penguin Land (MS)	39
Quackshot (MS)	38
Ravens Ridge (MS)	39
Secret Command (MS)	39
Shinobi (MS)	39
Shiner (MS)	39
Sonic (MS)	37
Spy vs Spy (MS)	39
Quackshot (MS)	38
Turk 182 (MS)	39
Talis I (MS)	39
Wonderboy (MS)	37
Wonderboy in Monsterland (MS)	38
Zone 3 (MS)	37

£150 of software to be won!

Yep! You'd better believe if it you want to be healthy and wealthy — get wise! Your tips could lead to instant fame and big cash prizes! (Good! I sound like a game show host! Well, whaddya expect with an uncle called Bob?)

This month's cheat-busters are Steven Bailey of Mid Glamorgan for MG Streets of Rage, Simon Hurnsey from Merseyside for GG Shinobi and DJ

O'Haller of London for his plethora of Mega Drive tips. I've never seen so many! Well done game hawks!

Think you can do better? Get onscreen! There are three MEGA £50 software vouchers up for grabs. Cheat till you're green around the gills and one could be yours! Write to: PITT STOP, SEGA FORCE, European Impact, Luton, Singapore SING 148. Mail out and woo!

STUCK IN A RUT!

The PinStop 'First Aide' Section!

If you're a problem completing one of your games or think you can help someone who's struggling, get scribbling! Send your solutions to the usual address and mark your envelope "STUCK IN A RUT!"

SECRET COMMAND



[1] and [5] together. J French, South Glamorgan

SLIDER



Loads of people sent in level codes 2-99 for this easy GG game. I'm not going to make it easier than I already is by printing them all, so here are a few passwords courtesy of Shelley and Jennifer Patten of Chyd.

Level 10: AGAC
Level 20: AAGG
Level 30: AAGG
Level 40: AAGG
Level 50: AGAG

Level 15: GJG
Level 25: JMR
Level 35: JGPR
Level 45: JGJ

QUACKSHOT



One of Paul's fave games. Here are some tips from a young lady called Claire of County Dublin. Come on Claire, most people have got embarrassing names, but you've gotta learn to live with it. Let's know what it is, next time and we can all have a good laugh! Anyway, on with the hints...

South Pole: The killer whales appear in between every third and fourth iceberg. Shoot a plunger as soon as you land on the iceberg to prevent Donald from sliding into the water (the plungers are green).

Egypt: In the ruins, climb up the first ladder you see. There's a wall to your right. Use the plunger, climb up the wall. Donald enters a small room with a few bonus items. Take these and climb up the wall in the room. You've found a shortcut!

Maharajah's Palace: Use pepper when jumping to kill the tiger.

Viking Chees Whips: Kill the first two Vikings with bubblegum (these are on deck). Underneath them are several bonus items.

The Island: Jump as high as you can while trying to reach the other tower on the disappearing island.

B-SWAT (MD)
Finish the game and when the title screen reappears, press and hold [A], [B], [C], then push down left on the joystick, Push Start continuously until the screen goes black. You access a level select screen. **Colum Stewart, Stirlingshire**

VALIS III (MD)
Press Up, [A] and [C] then hold down Start until a black screen appears. You get a hidden menu. **Gabriel Mulvey, Port Arlington**

BASTIAN BAGA (GG)
When the Game Over sign appears, hold Up and Start for a continue.

SHINOBI



I've printed this and slide on this, but now, thanks to Simon Munnelly of Monksville, the complete solution is yours! And he wins a £50 software voucher for his efforts! The best way to get to Neo City is Highway, Harbour, Valley then Woodland. Start at Highway with red. Kill everything on the first two levels.

On the second stage, use red's magic to kill the men shooting lasers at the top. Get the power-up on the top of the second building.

At the Harbour, use pink shindol and race through the levels. To kill the people on the ceilings of the second stage, walk next to them and as you fall, fire with pink's bombs. Get the second power-up on the top right side.

To kill the robot, use pink. When the last guy's arm goes back for the second time, jump up and bomb yellow on the back. Four attempts and the robot's dead.

At the Valley, use yellow shindol. You can now walk on water (jumps). Watch out for other shindols that jump out at you.

Fall off the first waterfall, walk along and get the third power-up. To get through the second level, use yellow's magic and you're invincible.

To kill the red and level rings, use pink and jump up, left, then right where you are. As he appears on the left-hand side, bomb him eight times.

In the Woodland, use blue to get through quicker. Use his magic to fly. Get the final power-up at the top and to the right. Use pink to kill the laser-shooting statues. Jump and bomb their heads.

At the top of the tower on the second level, go to the white spot. Jump up and fire right. On the left there's a power-up. Use blue to kill the mask. Stay in the corner and let the ya-yo. Go to the centre, face left and fire again. Go back to the left-hand corner and fire. Repeat several times.

Now you're in Neo City. Use green for the first screen and jump on the falling blocks. Go to the blocks on the left-hand side (nearest to you). Go up using the high jump until you reach the door on the left. Go through.

Use yellow to jump up the water chute. Keep to the right and go to the top. On the next screen, go right. Use blue's magic and go to the right-hand door at the bottom. Kill the mask as before. Stay with blue and jump up the disappearing blocks until you arrive at the laser beam room.

Go to the bottom and get a power-up. Go to the top, dodge the laser beams and go through the left-hand door. Now use green to kill the robot again. You're back in the water chute room again.



Go up again with yellow, but in the next room, go through the left-hand door at the bottom. The shindol comes down and attack. Use blue, but walk slowly. Now you can get through the second screen by entering the top door.

You're in a red room. Stand still. Use red's magic to shatter the rocks. Use pink and walk along the ceiling until you reach the sphere. Fall down, and go through the top door.

Move quickly in the next room, because spikes fall. Each time you reach a rock, use red's magic. At the bottom, go through the left-hand door. Kill the rings with pink as before (use Valley).

You're now in a new room. Go right. Use blue to jump or fly. Go through the top door. Dodge the spiked balls then go through the bottom door nearest you.

Use red again to exit the helicopter. You're back in the red room. Go through the same door as before and follow the same procedure. Carry out the same method again in the room with the spikes, only this time go through the right-hand door.

In the next room, use pink's magic to stop the water level rising. The following room's dish. Use pink's magic to get through.

Use green's high jump to get across the following blocks. Beware if you stay on them too long, they fall — and so do you!

In the next room, shoot the robots and use blue to fly horizontally. You're now in the final part of the game.

Use red to kill the laser-shooting shindol. You get to a robot which throws a laser beam. Use green's magic constantly to kill it, jump up and use your sword after the laser beam's thrown. Hit its head then crouch under the hand as it throws the beam. Continue until he dies.

If you run low on energy, change to green and use his magic to self-destruct, then change to red again.

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG



Looks like everyone's got cheats for this one, but hey, no one's complaining!

This time press Up, Down, Left, Right when the life page pops up. You should hear a ringing sound as you press Start. As Sonic stands there, press Start again to pause the game. If you press right on the joyed, our blue hottie moves a little closer than normal—but the clock has stopped. You can do this an every level.

Kudos to Steven Lowndes of Leeds for this one. This may not work if you have a different system-cart combination to Steve, who has a Jap Mega Drive with an English game.



THE WELSH WONDER!



Chris Brown from Haverfordwest, Dyfed isn't just a housewife!—she's a Mega Drive marvel!

Ghosts 'N' Ghosts

For invisibility, press Up, [A], Down, [A], Left, [A], Right, [A], [B], [C] on the life screen. You trigger invisibility by pausing and unpausing the game.

A hidden chest appears on Level One when you walk to the far left of the screen and jump.

For chests hidden in the landscape, On Level One, stand on the wall by the bird's tee and jump off the edge of the towards the gulleys.

On the second part of the level, walk under the first whirling. Jump over the second and jump again. When you climb the last ladder and walk left a chest appears.

On the line of trees with faces (these are near the top of the level) and walk towards the last tree on the left. Stand there jump to make the life appear.

On level four, when you reach the second ice slide, jump to the far right of the screen.

James Pond

Level 1: On the far left, out of the water, is a secret entrance to Level 11. On the seabed, far left is the secret entrance to Level Six. You've got to free all the lobsters before you find a secret entrance.

To the right of the pillar is a hidden bonus block (out of water), travel right and there's another bonus block. Underneath

the pattern is a room with loads of bonuses. To the right of that, above the second small hill and out of the water, is another hidden bonus block.

There's another block between two large hills in the right half of the ocean.

Moonwalker

Level 1.1: Dance to death
Level 1.2: Dance to death
Level 1.3: Jump and hit him
Level 2.1: Dance to death

Level 2.2: Go to the right of the screen, crouch down and fire left and right
Level 2.3: Watch the white dog. Kill him by firing your hat. You only get a few chances

Level 3.1: Dance to death
Level 3.2: Dance to death and only two are left. These split in half and are killed with your hat. They can't be harmed when split
Level 3.3: Wait until these guys have got together and kick one to the side of the screen. When he tries to re-enter, keep kicking. Do this to the other bloke

Level 4.1: Dance to death
Level 4.2: Go to the right side of the web and duck down. Fire at the combs and spiders as they enter

Level 4.3: Dance those guys legless. Kill off the rest with the skills you've learned

Level 5.1: Jump on the high platform and dance to death

Level 5.2: Use the low platform as protection. Hide under and pop out to get them

Level 5.3: In your robot form, you get a fire shooting star. Now you can do some serious damage!

Arnold Palmer's Golf

To get a secret game of Fantasy Zone, start a new game and take a hundred strokes on any hole (without sinking the ball). When Game Over appears, press Up, Up, Down, Down, Left, Right, Left, Right and button [A].

XENON 2



Struggling with this one? Terry Harris from Penarth in London has some sound advice.

If you're having problems beating the green monster, here's what to do.

Wait at the top right-hand corner of the screen. There's a bug that some times makes the enemy's bullets pass straight through you!

Be patient. Wait until the creature's tentacle is stretched out as far right as it will go. Snag underneath the green and shoot him smack in the eye! He now flashes white.

Fire until the tentacle loops back round and gets in your way. Go back to the left-hand corner. Repeat this process until he dies.

ALTERED BEAST



Thanks to David Harvey of Walford, Harf for these are cheats. Four continues each time you die.

1st Continue: Hold down the top-left D-button and press buttons [1] and [2].

2nd Continue: Hold down the bottom-left D-button and press [1] and [2].

3rd Continue: Hold down button-right and press [1] and [2].

4th Continue: Hold down top-right and press [1] and [2].

WONDERBOY (MS)

As soon as the credits screen appears, quickly press button [1] twice and [2] twice. While holding both buttons down, push Up or Down to select an area. Left/Right to select a round. Carlo Buttar!

ARROW FLASH



Invisibility: In option mode, change Arrow Flash from Stock to Charge. Wait for the play demo (after the story demo) then keep Start pressed until the game begins. Each time you press [2] for 3-5 seconds, you become invincible for ten minutes!

BATMAN



Unlimited lives: In Level 3, at the far right and at the museum's first level is a 1-Up. Once it and jump into the rising platform. When you reach the third platform or when the screen starts to scroll up, jump down and the 1-Up should be there again!

STREETS OF RAGE



What Paul calls the best beat 'em up on the Mega Drive. A plethora of hits and tips from Steven Bailey of *Mid-Gameplay*. He sets one of my totally awesome 120 SOFTWARE TOUCHERS.

Congratulations, Steve. When playing solo, choose Axel. He's strong and fast. In two-player mode, choose Adam and Blaze. Adam's strong, Blaze is fast.

Practice the super move as much as possible — it's the most powerful in the game. Grab your partner from the front and throw him.

When you're grabbed by a baddie, hold [R] and wiggle the D-button. You should be able to throw them.

If thrown, hold [Up] and jump to land on your feet.

The best way to attack is: Punch, punch, grab from the front, knee smash, knee smash, jump over them, drop.

Only bother with weapons on the first three stages.

When taking on guardians, particularly two at a time, use the throw as one baddie usually lands on the other.

Whenever possible, play martial mode. Whenever you're running low on lives, plug the controller into port two and you control a second character — with full health and continues. This doesn't work on Level Eight.

Level 1: Only bother with the pipe. Killing Mr. Boomerang's henchmen either keeps punching him, fly-kicking, or grab from above and below.

Level 2: Pick up any weapons. Never use fly kicks on the baddie. Grab from above or below.

Level 3: Use any weapons. To kill Boatsman, keep fly-kicking him when he charges.

Level 4: Throw people into holes as often as you can. To kill the Fire Breather, grab him, dodge back to stop him breathing flames. Now keep punching.

Level 5: Things get a little crowded here! Throw people into each other. Keep an eye on Blaze's sisters; they're hard to beat.

Level 6: Watch out for the Squashers and Fire Breathers!

Level 7: Throw as many people over the edge as possible. There are no guardians (great).

Level 8: Here you fight all the guardians again. To kill Mr. Big, grab him from the side when he floats. When he tries to turn you, punch or fly-kick him.



WONDERBOY IN MONSTERLAND



Trials: Gee from County Durham is our Wonderboy expert. In this issue! See what I mean about summer's new!

Round 1: To kill the boss, stand in the center of the screen and out with your sword.

Round 2: Buy the shield from the shop. Beat the boss with four cuts if you have a sword, or ten bullets if you have the gun.

Round 3: Buy Knight armour. When confronting the boss, aim just as he lands on the ground.

Round 4/5: Beat Giant Kong when he's behind the hidden door in area two. Go underground to get a key. Drink two glasses of the sackal in the tavern (area three) to receive a letter.

Round 6: If all your medicine's used up, there's a pharmacy hidden behind a secret

door in area two. Buy a pair of boots from the shop behind the hidden door.

Round 7: Search for your uncle in area one. Go to the top of the tower in area three and blow the fuse. The route to the residence appears. If possible, meet your uncle. When facing the boss, aim just as he hits the ground.

Round 8: Go through the passage in area one, collect the magic lightning. After getting the snakes using the lightning, hit the boss with the sword.

Round 9: Beat the demon behind the hidden door in area two to get the legendary sword. If you collect the legendary shield in area one, you're not hurt as much.

Round 10/11: Go to the shop on the east side before to get a coat of arms. Buy the armour in area four. Beat the ruby from the old woman behind the last door in area four.

Round 12: Don't slip in the passage. Get the dragon by attacking his teeth with your sword, bombs or lightning.

GOLDEN AXE



For level select, first choose Arcade mode. When you reach the character select screen, hold down Left, [R] and Start simultaneously. The number one should appear in the upper left corner of the screen. Use the D-pad to relate this number to any game level.

To get extra continues in Arcade mode, go to the character select screen. Press and hold down Left on the control pad. The characters should spin continuously. As you do this, press [R] and [C]. Now let all the buttons go and press Start.



MERCS



For a challenging game, go to the original mode and press [A], [R] and [C] at the same time. While holding these down, press Start and you enter a tough battle.

GRANADA X



The flying tank trick! Play until you're on Stage 2, wait for the timer to go to 0:00 then drive your tank off the edge. Your tank explodes and your timer's renewed.

When your new tank appears you can fly around and attack from outside the ship! This lasts until your timer runs out again. A hidden power-up lies on the second level. When you get to the tip of the left wing, move down past the last pipe and wait. A host can well appear which gives a super cannon blast!

DECAPATTACK



Almost and Life Right! Here are methods you may use together. The first is the air-walk, achieved by rapidly pressing button [C] after you jump.

Most of you know the red poles can throw you long distances, but did you know they can be used to give you extra hearts? Use the airwalk to position yourself over one of the poles then drop straight down. Each time you do this you gain half of a heart! back and one of the pole segments turns white.

Bypass the Boss: There's a way to bypass the second round boss. As you approach the last ball before Toady, float to the ledge on your left then jump from ledge to ledge until you see the sign that says you've cleared the round. Be careful, though, you must get the special item before you exit the level. If you fail, you have to go back to the level and find the item, plus you run into the second round boss!





**Advance
Play!** 



Swing, heave, throw, heave and hurl that hammer.



'I was picked for the Olympics, but I'm untalented, unfit and I haven't got a passport,' said PAUL MELLERICK. Good job — success at the Sega Olympics was enough to send his ego into overdrive!

A few months ago when I reviewed MD California Games, I mentioned that joystick-wiggles (or joystick-problems) were a bit tin on the ground. Yep, my unique talent — foot-in-mouth disease — has reared its ugly head again.

To celebrate the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, US Gold have graced us with a classic blister-bustin', butter-buttin', multi-event sport sim, Olympic Gold. This is yer clean-to-Earth sim, where you've gotta run, jump and throw as fast as you can — preferably better than your opponents.

There are seven events in all, the same on both systems: the 100 metres, hammer throwing, archery, hurdles, diving, pole vault and swimming. A fair old mix, don't you think?

If you wanna be a...

Some events, such as diving and pole vault, need a fair bit of practice to master, so don't get too ticked off when you can't get anywhere near the records to start with.

Most of the games are straightforward: whack those buttons as fast as possible for the 100 metres and the hammer and make sure you've got a spare stick nearby in case of emergencies!

Thankfully, you don't have to be in at the deep





Rip out all that glue for a perfect 10 point time.



OLYMPIC GOLD

and) and can try practice mode first. Pick your event and build up your confidence.

You can check the Olympic and World records for each event and take part in a mini Olympics (haven't quite figured out why yet, unless it's for lazy beggars).

A smart touch is that all the records are genuine, with the times and names of the real holders. If you're good enough you can topple Carl Lewis's 100 metres world record. I have — 9.96 seconds! (Smartest — Ed.)

What do points make?

For the full Olympics you choose the number of players (1-4), the nationality of the competitors and change their names if you wish.

Then see 11 computer controlled opponents on the MD and live on the MS and you're aiming to score more points than everybody else. Pretty straightforward, that bit.

You get points depending on the position you finish in each event, with a maximum of 34 points for a gold medal. The absolute maximum you can

score is 188.

Along with the score chart, there's a table showing how many gold, silver and bronze medals each competitor's won. It's always good to see your name up in lights.

Carrying a torch

Olympic Gold looks great on the MD, with detailed sprites and backdrops. The MS's a bit spartan in comparison but it's still good. What do you expect from the machine, anyway?

Small sound effects such as a starting pistol and crowd cheers generate atmosphere and you'll need the volume up to time your starts perfectly.

A smart touch on the MD is the opening sequences. A very neat global pic showing all the modern Olympics since 1896 in Athens to Barcelona in 1992 kicks the game off to a great start.

Sports fans are gonna love this, it only for the number of events and options. Keep your pens/pencils for the full treatment next issue. **PAUL**



Push these buttons fast enough and you might win a Gold me like me.

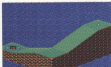


**Advance
Play!** 



**PAUL
MELLERICK**
thinks all ball
games have a
particular fascination.
But is this one gonna
grab him where it
hurts?

PUTT A



Remember those depressing holidays in Weston-Super-Mare your parents took you on when you were road but a toddler? And remember the embarrassing games you were forced to play? Table tennis, indoor rowing, go-cart racing, beach football and, horror of horrors, a shameful defeat on the putting green?

**Negotiate the
courses and get
loads birdies**

Intense, exciting, playable... these are all words you're not gonna use to describe this little outing! If your idea of a good time is to while away the day on the green, this is for you! On the other hand, if you like a spark of originality (as you don't spot trains), this'll most likely leave the pants off you! You start the game with the option of playing another opponent or being a coward and trying a practice round. This



ADRIAN PITT's
never been in
full control of a
chopper before, but
that didn't dampen his
performance here any!
(Eh eh!)

It's a hard old life being an airless rescue pilot! Having to put up with crawling, dodging aircraft and being shot down (it's all in a day's work)! Welcome to the world of Air Rescue. And what a world it is, too! You take the role of a talented (?!?) helicopter pilot whose mission is to rescue those poor unfortunate souls who've gotten themselves into a spot of bother. This means getting your chopper out (misused) to the helipad (your life spots) and sniffling those folks out of danger. Turn on your machine and you're greeted to a colourful opening screen showing your craft being prepared on the helipad. The options screen gives the choice of normal or hard level. (Eh, earned! Normal level's tricky enough so don't try to be too clever — you'll regret it!)

Lucky ladders

At the start of each level you're shown a map of the area you fly over. Study it quickly! It helps to know where the hostages are and what to avoid. Fly around, avoiding enemy aircraft and guns and pick up the men. Take them back to base as fast as possible, but don't brave fate too often — you can only carry four men at once.

**Advance
Play!** 



RESO



AND PUTTER

time, you can begin...

The first thing that you notice are the graphics — in fact all of them! Each level takes place on a huge roof (piece of fat, doctor), apparently straddled in the middle of the Pacific! Very dull on the papers. The sound leaves a lot to be desired — the annoying tune will have you reaching for the volume control in no time!

Easy-peasy!

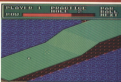
The object of the game is to get the small, round object (the ball) into the small, round hole. This is made slightly harder by the moving platforms and

obstacles which litter the course.

Pick up the ball with [Z] and using a cursor, place it over the area you're aiming for. Set the angle of your shot, let your power build up and tee!

Once you've got the hang of it you can easily negotiate the courses and get back (unless Jerry-hey!). You'll find yourself flying through the levels as if they didn't exist! Later stages are slightly tougher but there isn't much here for even the most die-hard sports fan. Stick to watching golf on the TV and save this game for a wet weekend in April!

PAUL



To pick up a hostage, press [Z] to lower a ladder. This draws their attention and allows you to pick them up. However, if you're too low you could crash your paper (not a good idea!).

The first level's Dangerous Holiday (now there's an understatement). Avoid buildings and enemy aircraft and Jerry even men back to base to qualify for the next level.

Bombed out!

On most stages you can only retaliate with bombs but from Level 3 an extra option screen allows the use of other weapons such as a cannon.

The graphics are pretty good, bombed out buildings, ships and mountains filling the screen.

The series are okay, the usual firing and explosion effects, but the tone might get on your nerves after a while.

Air Rescue's going to be a challenging game, keeping you on your toes for some time, but wait for the review to get the full breakdown.

AGE



AIR RESCUE





**Advance
Play!** 

SAGAIA



She may be flash but **CLAIRE MORLEY** could never save the Universe in 24 hours! Or could she...?

Remember the arcade game *Delinzer*? Of course you do! It was a mesh variation of *Space Invaders*, the playing area scrolling both left and right. Ever now, after all these years, there are cheap imitations turning up on computers and consoles.

Initially *Sagaia* looks very cheap! The basic idea is a little uninspired. You're the last hope for your race, or something, and you must pilot your fighter through waves after waves of alien attacks.

Along the way you can pick up extra points, weapons and an invaluable defence shield. Make sure you get this as the game tends to be over fast without it. Most of the nasties are easily dispatched but others require a few extra blasts.

Big guys

At the end of each level you'll find the BIG bad guy! And I do mean big! The end-of-level guardians are huge and pack loads of firepower! Graphically they're quite impressive but lack real movement.

After dispatching these fearsome foes, you're taken to the zone selection screen and shown a

map of the solar system. Choosing the next planet whisks you off on yet another adventure! There are loads of planets to battle through in our familiar solar system and your opponents get tougher with each level. This is the main challenge of *Sagaia* and saves it from being a real hofter. However, it

becomes obvious after a few attempts that this game hasn't much new or challenging to offer. The collision detection's pretty poor — your ship sometimes blows up for no apparent reason! This becomes

darned annoying after a while, though you do get to start again where you left off. Tacky sound effects and an annoying tune accompany your intergalactic mission.

BANG! Aagh!

As these can't be switched off, you're more than likely end up playing this one with earbuds wet and truly in place!

In the prospect of yet another destiny a galaxy/save the world/all sorts of harmless aliens game appeals to you, fine. But if you're looking for something a bit special, look elsewhere!

CLAIRE



Get the double bomb bonus to really cause some serious damage. One shot is ok, but you'll soon make life difficult for yourself!



The mid-level guardians are no piece of cake either! Keep your shield up at all times and you can pull through to less shabby victories!



Enter the big guys looking decidedly flabid if your aim's true you can finish it off by clicking a few buttons down, it's galled!



EURO CLUB SOCCER



Kick Off, Kick Off, wherefore art thou Kick Off? Nowhere, so let's hope Euro Club Soccer from Virgin's good. PAUL MELLERICK inflates the balls to find out.

I've been waiting for over a year now for Kick Off to appear on the MD. Brilliant MS and GS versions have took to the pitch, 16-bit Kick Off still hasn't. It looks like it never will.

Still, another soccer hit from the Amiga has made it to the MD. Kusal's Manchester United Soccer was a smash hit on home computer and Virgin have the rights to MDise it. Renamed and reworked, Euro Club Soccer looks like the first 'good' MD football game ever.

Why the name? For the simple reason the main tournament is the European Cup, involving clubs from European countries including England.

Each country has several teams in the competition with individual ratings. Most of you will choose English teams. The list is impressive Arsenal, Leeds, Chelsea, Manchester United, Liverpool, West Ham, Tottenham Hotspur and... Rotherham United? No prizes for guessing which team the programmers support!

Game set then match

As with all the best football sims, Euro Club Soccer has more than it's fair share of options, including the length of the match (4-90 minutes, realtime), background sound, kit design, control options and formation setting.

There are also two general gameplay settings, Simulation and Arcade. Simulation throws you straight in at the deep end — the first round, first leg of the European Cup — while Arcade's strictly a one-on-one feature against the computer or a friend.

The game's viewed from the stands and the whole pitch is about four screens in length. In the top left-hand corner's a timer counting up to 45 minutes of intense relative to the chosen match duration. The opposite top corner shows the score and, when applicable, aggregate score directly below.

The name of the player in possession of the ball's also shown at the bottom of the screen, useful if you know your players' abilities like the back of your hand.

A, B, C, easy as...

The control system's a bit daunting to begin with. Each button has a different function which changes depending on whether you have the ball or not. When not in possession, button [A] is used



to steal the ball from opponents (if you're near enough) and [B] is a sliding tackle (calling a foul every time for a yellow or red card) or a header if the ball's in the air. Button [C] isn't used.

If you have the ball, [A] is not used. A quick press of [B] passes the ball to your nearest player while a hold and release bids it.

Button [C] gives a long chip downfield but you must direct a player to the ball before the opposition do.

Get all that? Don't worry, you will. Disappointingly Euro Club's spot on the pitch is great and the

players animate very well. The player on the ball has four arrows pointing towards him to make things extra clear and happily they don't obscure things. The in-game tone's a bit out of place but fairly good. The sound effects, even for the simple kick of the ball, are reasonable.

Hopefully, many hours of playtesting will provide the MD with the one piece of software lacking from everyone's collection — a decent football game. 'See us go, see us go, see us gooooo!' **PAUL**

The control system's a bit daunting to begin with



Even after the sweet you can get between meals without. Well, well, you'll still struggle to win!



The tracks are a bit of an effort, but get a grip on these beauties on the victory stand!

OFF-ROAD

So, do you think you can handle life in the fast lane? Well, get your helmet on and push this motor to the limit!

More of the same?

Shall I start with the good news or the bad news? Okay, the good news: Originally Super Off-Road's great! The tracks are detailed and brilliantly gobby. The cars, though small, move very well.

There's a smart in-game tune which thumps along in the background and sound effects such as engine noises and collected Nitro (or cash) are fairly impressive.

Unfortunately (ah-oh, down!) Super Off-Road Racer has its fair share of poor points. After finishing second or third a couple of times and upgrading my car to a MUCH better model, the car had no noticeable advantage over the others.

Even when I filled up all the sections and had 40 Nitro, I still found it impossible to beat the grey computer-controlled car. Eventually I lost a race, so the computer cars impossible to catch. No fun there!

The idea of a recurring race detracts from the gameplay. You want a game with a finish, a target to aim at, a big blow-out finale (yeah yeah, we get the picture—Eh), so even if you finish last you have an incentive to play it again.

This is the downfall of Super Off-Road: With a few choice tweaks it could be a helluva lot better.

PAUL



• PRODUCER: BALLISTIC
• CG: H/A • MS: H/A
• MEMORY: 512K
• PLAYERS: 1 or 2
• PRICE: £39.99

SF rating



PRESENTATION

• Choice of controls, nice pictures

VISUALS

• Great tracks, funny animations

SONICS

• Exciting in-game tune with great FX

PLAYABILITY

• Easy to get into, but don't think it

LASTABILITY

• Mostly fun but no ending, Kean!

71% FORCE

• Good layout with but not a few points to lose

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TURBO OUTRUN



A bucketload of Brylcreem, a smart pair of Ray Bans, a Californian blonde with legs up to her armpits — all vital ingredients if you wanna be noticed cruising the American highways and byways in your Ferrari F40. ADRIAN PITT dreams on...



The moment a racing game zooms into the office it sticks to me like a magnet (or should that be a tight pair of underpants?). I get to see 'em all — racing games, that is, not underpants!

The vast majority are insane, totally pitiless and suffer from the most appalling graphics and game-play. Speaking of which, Turbo OutRun really scrapes the bottom of the fuel tank! It's awful!

There were many who didn't favour the original OutRun on the Mega Drive. Personally, I loved it. But surely any glitches that appeared in the old faithful would be ironed out next time around? How utterly naive I was!

Cool as a cucumber!

Fast things first, choose the type of gearbox you're gonna use. The manual box leaves control at your fingertips. Fortunately, the Ferrari only has two gears (low and high) so deciding when to change isn't that much of a dilemma.

To be on the safe side, select the automatic option if you're not used to driving anything faster than a Morris Minor! Now you're off! Race through 16 death-defying stages in the notorious Turbo OutRun competition. Dodge a whole host of vehicles and obstacles — Minis, juggenheims, Porches, barnes, boulders etc — as you burn rubber across the plains of America. Your objective? To finish the pants off the opposition and keep that reputation of yours well and truly intact.

Expect the usual features from Turbo OutRun. The boys in blue give themselves to your big and

(madam) if there's a threat of speeding.

You can upgrade your motor on completion of each stage. Tyres with extra grip, a scooped-up engine or turbo upgrade are yours for the taking!

The clock's definitely not on your side. If the sands of time are running dry, pity there's a checkpoint around the next bend!

Finish a stage and there's just time to adjust your shades, slick back your hair and middle your girlfriend's warts. The race isn't over yet, mate...

Well and truly clapped out!

Turbo OutRun not only looks awful, it plays awful. Bizarre jerky scrolling, dodgy collision detection and seriously shoddy 2D graphics.

On numerous occasions, the scenery appears to smack the car head-on, but has no effect on your speed (absolute whatevs!) Or you zoom, completely uncontrolled!

Handling the Ferrari is a right-mare! The control pad's not suited to this kind of game anyway, but Turbo OutRun ranks as the most unresponsive racing game I've ever played. Buy a pair of ear muffs 'cos you want to hear the sound! Loads of

grating in-game tunes, annoying sound FX, and totally unrecognisable speech. (And I thought Orson Wells had a husky voice!)

If there you, it's clear (no pun intended) at Turbo OutRun — and boy, Road Rash or Super Monaco GP?

If it's racing you're into, stick with pigeons; they're far more exciting!

ADP

Not only looks awful, it plays awful!



**Advance
Play!**



CHUCK ROCK



'Unga bunga!'
'Adrian, be quiet.
I'm trying to write
my Chuck Rock
Advance Play.' I s'pose
there's a first time for
everyone, even PAUL 'I
need more time'
MELLERICK.

Poor old Chuck. His one and only true love, Cynthia, has been co-opted by his arch enemy, Gary. Either way, Chuck, realize that he is, what, her back—these cave-men are so meanly they make Sly Sealene look a right old wimp.

To reach Cynthia, Chuck's gotta fight through five levels of rock-throwing, belly-busting, pseudo-punishing scenery and save his beloved from the evil clutches of Gary.

Our hero's by no means a super human. No, thanks your basic Renaissance caveman — very overgrown with a severe stoop (well, they do say love is blind and all that). Chuck's main strength is exactly that: he can pick up hefty ROCKS and CHUCK them where he pleases (godd? Hilarious).

His stone-throwing technique not only allows him to kill any oncoming creatures, but by placing the rocks in the right position he can reach otherwise inaccessible platforms.

Belly bonanza

The rocks come in two different sizes and larger ones are a struggle even for Chuck; he walks more slowly and can't jump as high.

If you can't find many rocks, don't panic, Chuck's developed another way of getting rid of the various prehistoric animals that wander about. Chuck loves nothing better than a few dinosaur burgers for breakfast, lunch and dinner (not to mention midnight snacks), so his nose carries around a very nice budge in the stomach area. Chuck, to put it mildly, is a fat girl!

Being a successful chug, he uses this to his best ability with his brilliant patented Belly-Butt Stick out that stomach and demolish those dinosaurs!

Although belly-butts are very useful, Chuck also has to deal with bird-like creatures that attack from the air. Here he's gotta jump up and press his belly-butt button (he'll) to perform a very athletic flying kick.

'Unga bunga!'

On both 16- and 18-bit machines, Chuck Rock looks fantastic. Virgin have made a very attractive MD platform comp, including multi-level parallax scrolling and beautiful backdrops. In the backgrounds, the 16-bit game still looks like a dream and the belly-butt's most hummingous.

Pump up the volume and kick out The Chuck Rock Band! Load up the MD version and the title screen sees them strutting their stuff. Five members pump out the soundtrack, which is amazingly familiar but I can't place it.

In-game sounds are very impressive — great prehistoric animal noises when you kill something and a very clear 'Unga bunga' from Chuck at the start of each level.



It's a tough old life taking on these pointy-nosed buggers from publisher's lairs. Good job Chuck's got a few duty rocks up his sleeve.



The rocks'll save him lots of plenty of the body water, but watch you don't get overboard!



Unfortunately the MS isn't capable of all this but in-game sounds are reasonably clear and add atmosphere.

Another difference is the big friendly dinosaur — jump onto this beastie on the MD and you'll be carried over to the other side of the water. The MS couldn't cope with the size of this sprite so instead you just stand on a jet of water.

The humorous touches make clear this isn't a game to be taken seriously. Chuck pulls various expressions when he gets hit and performs a spinning death when his heart power runs out.

Chuck should appeal to all platform addicts and entice new recruits, too. But before you rush out to chuck rocks, read the review in last month's SEGA FORCE... **PAUL**

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48. Chlorophyll is the green pigment in plants that captures light energy for photosynthesis. It is found in the chloroplasts of plant cells.

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**Advance
Play!**



Arcade Smash Hits is a ground-breaking idea, providing three complete games on one cart. And to cap it all, they're conversions of arcade classics everyone should own!

What the hell are these games then? Well, you can now enjoy the delights of *Break Out*, *Centipede* (yep!) and *Missile Command* (yeah!), all on one cart in the comfort of your (well, subtle) bed. You may have seen updated or altered versions of these games but these are the original items for your playing pleasures.

Each game's introduced by Hairie (sounds vaguely obscene) — Ed., a little furry bug who performs a cute title set piece for each game and sits on the title screen waiting for you to choose. So we move onto the games themselves...

SBNA

Break Out: Using a bat, bounce a ball around each level, destroying all the bricks to advance to the next stage. Simple but very addictive.

Missile Command: You guard three bases under constant attack. Using a joystick you must destroy all the incoming missiles and save

the day. Each level get progressively harder and faster. Simple but very addictive.

Centipede: A worm-infested hell sees you battling it out with centipedes as they tumble down toward you. Destroy them bit by bit and watch them turn into mushrooms, which alter the path further insects take. Firm... simple but very addictive.

Spot the difference

Each game's been altered slightly to bring it in line with the more colourful games of today. *Missile Command*'s been given a REAL facet, with great graphics and detailed backdrops. *Break Out* also has new special graphical effects, such as scrolling backgrounds and multi-coloured bricks.

Centipede, however, is virtually identical to the arcade original. There's not a lot you can do with it if these games may be classics to me but younger players probably missed them first time around. This is the thinking behind the cart and I, for one, think it's a great idea.

Let's hope the games live up to the screen-shot!

PAUL



**Always one to try
and fit THREE
hamburgers in**

ONE mouth, **PAUL
'wide mouthed frog'
MELLERICK** sees how
Virgin have managed
on the games and carts
front.

ARCADE SMASH HITS

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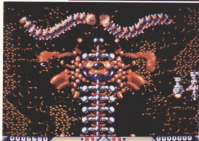


XENON 2

Megablast



Xenon 2 may be one of the best shoot-'em-ups on the Amiga but we've got more than enough on the MD already, thank you very much. PAUL MELLERICK sees if it'll make the grade.



Xenon 2 was originally released a long time ago by a company called Microsoft. When they went bust (due to a certain fat newspaperman), the games they'd programmed went into hiding. But now, after long and lengthy discussions, Virgin have signed up all the old games and are bringing them out once more (see review).

Billed as one of the greatest shoot-'em-ups ever to appear on the Amiga, MD Xenon 2 should be just as good, if not better, including one of the most innovative ideas seen in a shoot-'em-up for a long time.

Second chance

The opportunity to control the scrolling of the screen is a new idea and works like this. The

screen automatically scrolls down but by bringing the ship to the bottom of the screen you can push the screen back, giving a second chance to kill something you missed.

In basic terms, Rarten 2's yet another coin-collecting shooter, but uses the coins in a different way. Gathering cash coins accrues money to be spent later. Other items improve speed and firepower. In the middle of each level is a shop. Owned by an abrupt, spiky alien of unknown species, you can buy and sell items to improve your ship's firepower and make progress through the levels easier.

Xenon 2's a scarily polished game and looks like it was ported straight over from the Amiga. The graphics are good and the various scenery along the sides of the screen is pretty impressive.

The Megablast subtitle partly refers to the music, a remix of a Bomb The Bass song of the same name, which was a minor hit in 1989 (are you sure?)—Eh. Unfortunately, the sound's a bit flat and doesn't fit the pace of the game.

Xenon 2 should go down a treat with all shooter freaks as a tough challenge and is due for July release. Keep your eyes peeled for it!

PAUL



© Matt Groening



If only home life could always be like this! Bart's games have to get cooking on his board to get back to the real thing! Keep jumping the sprocket and make sure you kick those mutant alien scumbags the hell outta Springfield!

Advance Play! 

BART VS THE SPACE

You may have seen last month's Advance Play for the MS game, which I was very impressed with. Soon after that, Flying Edge sent us the MD version as well (what nice people).

You MS gamers might have read the comic's last issue, but for those that didn't, I suppose I'll have to repeat myself.

Bart's on a quest to save the planet from the evil Space Mutants, who are planning world domination. The future rests on his shoulders — after all, it's the world's run by Space Mutants. Bart won't be able to get up to his usual tricks and pranks.

Bart wants the Space Mutants are sucking the ultimate weapons, for which they need purple (headed) objects (7).

So where are these purple objects? All over Springfield, Bart's home town. The only way Bart can think of stopping the Space Mutants is to colour all the purple objects red using a paint sprayer!

The unteachables

However, spraying everything is not the whole answer. Some purple objects are unteachable by paint and can only be recoloured by other means. As you walk along the streets, you can enter vari-

ous shops where you can buy items to complete the tasks.

The streets of Springfield are alive with Space Mutants disguised as normal human beings. Destroy them by jumping on their heads.

But first you must know who are mutants, using Bart's 8-way speed. Spot a mutant and squash it! If it's a mutant, it'll drop a 'Proof Of Existence' token. Collect it and a letter appears in the bottom-left corner. Gather enough and you'll spell the name of one of Bart's relatives.

On the first level it's Maggie, Bart's baby sister. Collect all the letters and she'll help you out at the end of the level.

Duck soup

The trouble is, as soon as you complete a level, the Space Mutants adapt their plans and go after other items. Stay ahead of the game, Bart!

After you've done up the streets you need to go to the shopping mall and collect hats. Yep, hats, the Space Mutants need HATS! Knock them

off customers' heads and collect them to stop them falling into the wrong hands. Go, onto the wrong heads. If you collect enough 'Proof Of Existence' tokens, Bart's

mom, Marge, will help. Level three sees Bart at his favourite place, Amusement Park. Lisa can help Bart if he gets enough tokens, but first he must get through the level.

Along the way, Bart can play sidewalk games to try and win some more money. These include Shoot The Duck and the Wheel Of Fortune.

The deep

Next Bart goes to the Springfield Museum of Natural History. Go this right and his dad, Homer, will be freed to land a hand.

The last level's a touch dangerous! Bart goes to his dad's workplace, the Springfield Nuclear Power Plant, and must collect nuclear power rods and return them to the reactor.

After shooting about the MS's brilliant graphics and great playability, I was longing to get my

Great graphics—the best for a Bart game by far.

THE SIMPSONS™

BART VS. THE SPACE MUTANTS



Simpsonsmania hits the Sega!
Last month PAUL MELLERICK saw the MS and GG outings, now it's the Mega Drive's turn.

E MUTANTS

hands on the MD game. The graphics are very clear and crisp — the best ever for a Bart game. The sprites move well and Bart's readily identifiable. One extra over the MS is the speech. When Bart loses a life, "Eat my shorts!" rings out capably.

Using the extra memory of the MD, extra graphics have been added. When you die, a roll from the video for Deep, Deep, Trouble appears to announce Game Over. Good stuff.

Twins

The MD's extra buttons used to great effect. Button (C) is used to operate the lens Bart is carrying, either the X-ray specter, a coin or rocket. This allows (A) then to run or spray and (B) to jump.

Bart pauses the game, when you can scan up and down the inventory. This is the best control method so far and works very well.

Just like in MS counterpart, MD Bart Simpson's going to go down a storm whatever I say, but again this looks a cracker. If it had to choose between the MD and the MS, I wouldn't! They both look and play great. So far.

We'll review them both as soon as they're ready — look out for them!

PAUL



Getting on the blower'll improve your chances and put be damned certain you've got enough red dust to cover up.



Don't have a cow on the conveyor belt, most it's more than your hominoid worth!





Don't let the big gesser grind you down, even if he is a big, hard mother with firepower the size of telephone poles - if in doubt, use your magic!



Master the controls pretty darned quick if you want to stay ahead.



Life gets tough when the non-humans arrive. If a dog won't do it, get out your weapon!

Advance Play!

Sporting a mean line in hyperactive magic apes (sic), MARSHAL ROSENTHAL once more heads east. This time he's one of the Dreamworks team, flipping and twisting as if it was going out of fashion.



Check this out! You're standing at the Gates Of Time. Stepping through, you're clipped back to the Shangri Dynasty where, using all your considerable martial arts (and dressed in a real keen outfit, complete with flowing robes), you take on the cause of all the Mystical Fighters in a quest to defeat the evil Lord Kabuki of the Underworld. The Mystical Kingdom is crisscrossing you.

This advance preview gives us a chance to see what the guts of the game are like and even

though I couldn't access the two-player option, one player's more than enough to do the job for now.

Control of the fighter's paramount. No control and you're dead! Push, jump, kick, flip forward and backward are all part of the repertoire and easily accessed. In the air, the D-pad flips the fighter and [B] launches a jump kick if [A] is pressed. [A] alone punches.

D-pad wiggling

Now what good would the above be without a few combinations to learn? The D-pad and [A] in mid-air for a front flip jump kick, for example. Or the D-pad below to roll at the enemy - or under an attack or away from trouble. Push [A] while rolling for a sliding kick and throw a guy by pressing [A] a few times when he's nearby. Don't worry, you'll learn.

Boy, this is more tough than wrestling! There's a reverse drop to make an enemy's head with the ground - hit the guy and press [A] rapidly.

The best and often most effective move is to

whirl someone around then throw him at his friends or off the screen. To perform this amusing feat, rotate the D-pad while holding the enemy.

Breons and hairy primates!

Spectral scrolls bestow magical abilities. Some are found in treasure chests, others a reward after you've wiped out a squad of goons (human or otherwise). Two scrolls let loose lightning, three an earthquake and five scrolls turn you into the Great Warrior. Of all the snazzy magic moves, give this one a whirl: being able to disappear just

as a group of guys close in is real useful! Peppering back into sight and grabbing one by the ankles to use as a beam to sweep away the others completes a real gem of a trick!

The magical powers can be... um... crucial, too. Not all are

noted in the manual, including what appears to be a King Kong spell. There you invade a giant gorilla-like beast who tears back and forth, mowing down enemies and weakening stronger ones.

Whirl someone around then throw him at his friends



The earlier levels give you a real taste of things to come — this is one tough eating!



AL FIGHTER

Weak? Sushi, phew!

There are also attack items to feed — it's not all tea, it's food. The Jile is a form of short sword, good for hitting enemies — especially when they're swords.

To stay out of range, try the Fan. This flaps like a boomerang and whisks anything in its path. If you catch it upon its return, you can use it again.

Of course, there's also a way to restore energy. Look out for the little plates of Sushi. Yum!

The Underworld's a beautiful place, full of traditional Japanese landscapes, but don't be lulled by the lush scenery or tranquil interiors. It's a long way to Kibiki and you'll bump into plenty of trouble on your travels.

Trouble!

For example, in Stage One, big, fat Guma types come at you. Easy to take on 'cause they're so fluffy, but then small demons start popping up too. Not good.

Stage Two adds demon birds, samurais and ninjas. Stage Three ups the ante with werewolves and really BIG demons.

There are mid- and end-level bosses as well,

and we can't say that these guys are tough 'cause most aren't even human!

Colours play an important role. You can tell what's coming at you simply by noting the colour scheme. Samurai zombies are dead-black, as opposed to living ones in red, blue or green.

The graphics are Japanese style, from the way the characters are designed and move to the way samurais approach before pulling their blades. Animation's more involved than expected, speed lines accentuating movement when you snarl a gap (before smashing his head or a sword handle) or misses maiming you.

Parallax effects in the foreground and background add realism, particularly when mist develops and you have to battle through both enemies and the thickening whiteness.

A tough game? You bet. This is gonna challenge all gamers and will hold up well compared to the arcade coin-ops.

The special effects of the magic and magical beings are very nicely done. So nice, in fact, you might be tempted to just sit back and watch them. Not advisable though, 'cos if you do, you're dead. Fair warning, dudes!



Don't let the magic animation grab your attention too much, unless you wanna die!





**Advance
Play!** 

**Power to the People's
what I say. PAUL
MELLERICK fancies a
go at bringing down a
dirty great
corporation.
Wot a rebel!**



It's a long and winding road through the corridors of UCC but if you like a good, dirty fight, it's the place to be!



CORPORATION

Here we go. Along with Chuck Rock and Euro Club Soccer (aka Manchester United Europe), Corporation's joined the ranks of Amiga games (converted to the Mega Drive. Let's hope they've made some alterations).

The trend for computer games a couple of years ago was to produce highly involved action role-playing games. Corporation was one of these.

The UCC (Universal Cytobene Corporation) has developed a genetically engineered war machine capable of mass destruction and general untidiness. Your glory mission is to find your way through the UCC; build-up and destroy this mutation — fast.

You can be very fit, special agents, when you're, of course. Choose one of the agents and you'll have good reasons for moving as fast as Ben Johnson in a relay clinic.

Vital choices

At the start of the mission you also choose from a selection of extras, such as weapons and provisions. Take a lot of time over your selections. **THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT!** You have been warned.

You're dropped off at the top of the building and must travel through the 16 floors of the skyscraper to reach the exit at the bottom. Search every room to find the laboratory details of the mutation then get the hell outta there!

Above and beyond exploration, you must deal with various robots and creatures that get in your path. Some are innocuous and some are real — but which are which? Make the wrong choice and it could be very, very costly.

Smart sight

One thing that separates Corporation from any other search and destroy game is the full view 3D perspective. Look around every room, in every room and corner, to find that vital piece of info. Special attention has been paid to converting this to the MD and the layout and control system have been altered accordingly.

The screen's mainly taken up by the first-person view. Dotted around it are the various icons which allow you to interact with the scenery.

Control's been switched from icons to the joystick and plays much better for the change. Another extra is the automatic crosshair that picks up aliens, and saves time when aiming your shot. Very handy.

The speed at which Corporation moves is unbelievable. The Amiga version slowed and jerked every five degrees or so. The MD moves fluidly and makes the controls feel a whole lot better and more responsive.

Corporation was a great computer game and very in depth, but it had its problems. The great news is that it looks like they've been ironed out for the MD. I can't wait!

PAUL

**Find details of the
mutation then get the
hell outta there!**



Take a good look around the rooms and make sure you pick up those vital clues every time. If you don't, it's a wasted journey!



You don't have to be a 'bleeding' psychic to pick out the real values from the holograms, but it certainly helps!

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I M P A C T



Reviewed!



**Fairyland's
sending ADRIAN
PITT into the
Land of Mod! Oh-oh, I
can feel another dull
RPG rush coming on
again!**

Long ago, a lot before lunchtime, a peaceful race of folk lived happily and gaily (are you sure?) —Ed, in the realm of Fairyland. Legend has it that a single hero once defeated the land from the unpalatable forces of evil. He was either very brave or incredibly stupid, no one quite knows, but because of his actions the people living people of Fairyland lived in dread no more.

However, nothing lasts forever and many years later a massive column of fire lit up sky and word demons appeared from nowhere! Not an intelligent breed, the more curious of the ferries made the mistake of entering those portals. Lo and behold, they promptly vanished!

Soon after, Fairyland was wracked by terrible disasters: floods, earthquakes... even potholes to rot!

As if this wasn't enough, dirty great monsters ravaged the land, leaving the poor fairy-folk and generally making a nuisance of themselves!

As if you hadn't guessed already, you have the truly enthralling task of locating the source of these unspeakable evils and slaying it the hell out of Fairyland Town.

No offence

Let me state for the record that I've nothing against RPGs as long as they're well put together and keep me interested. Super Hyelide is serious in looking in both these departments. It's aces.

Starting off, you're faced with a load of options and the first thing is to create a character, give them a name and choose one of four identities: warrior, thief, priest or monk. Each character has their own unique abilities and talents, match, and it's up to you to decide which one's gonna do the business for you!

The first outing's in the City Of The Power, inhabited by a variety of people, some friendly and some miserable old sods who won't give you the time of day!

The controls are fairly straightforward. Move around using the D-pad, [C] displays the main menu, which allows magic, items and items to be selected, and [A] triggers actions.

Spelling lesson

Peek around the city a bit and you'll come across the useful buildings you need to visit: the Sacred Monastery, Wizard's Mansion, Forest Inn, General Store, Weapons Store and the Forest Bank. Each of these is vital to your mission as they enable you to: buy weapons—food, medicine, a room for the night and various other items you need to survive.

Remember the clock is ticking onwards in Fairyland and before you know it night descends and you're plunged into total darkness — be warned!



SUPER HYELIDE

Ambling through the countryside, you must perform various tasks. To get more money for equipment, you have to travel outside the city and miserable poor, innocent peasants for their gold, but don't tackle the great monsters or take on any that are too tough for you (are you calling me a wimp?) If you're fit, simply head back to the city for food or medicine to replenish your dwindling strength.

Slaying monsters earns experience (EXP) points which can be traded for magic, spells or a better life level.

The more times you go to see the Wonderful Wizard of... or... Fairyland, the more spells you acquire. The priest and monk have got a good, as they only need just as many EXP points as the warrior and the thief to learn a spell.

Roll out the barrel

Getting to grips with the game takes a while but the longer you stick with it the more you'll find out about your character and the world they live in. Outside the city, there's a fair amount to do and if you've got a lot of experience to use it as you want to stay alive and get further into the adventure!

The graphics are simple blocky, the colours used to play the least and your character's so small you have to keep checking that you don't shrink away!

Don't expect much musically either, as Super Hyelide falls far on its face here too. The sounds throughout the game go unimpressingly annoying and the music you hear indoors sounds like it's

**Some miserable
old sods won't give you
the time of day!**



If I have to put my RPG hat on, it takes something a little bit special to really turn me on! Sadly, that something is surely lacking in *Super Hydlide*. First off, the controls themselves are tough to get the hang of, and when I started squinting at the keypad, I felt like I was playing a mind-alterer. Then, well, it'll appeal to anime RPG fans, but, to be totally blunt, there's nothing here to stimulate the old adventure buds. After exchanging a few bland words with some of the locals, I found myself looking for the nearest hotel and a place to rest my grey cells. **PAUL**



HYDLIDE

being played on a Gameboy engine!

Even more damned frustrating is that not only do you frequently die for no apparent reason, but before you know it it's a rerun and the game's over. *Practice makes perfect*, I guess, but once you've played this a few times you'll probably wish you'd never switched the machine on in the first place!

If you're a frustrated RPG player you'll probably find something to take your fancy. But if you've got a limited attention span and permanent curiosity (like me), you'll find yourself craving just a bit more excitement than this one's got to offer.

AGE



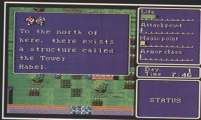
• PRODUCED BY: SGA
• DEV: H/A & H/A
• MEMORY: 512K
• PLAYERS: 1
• PRICE: £39.99

Sf rating

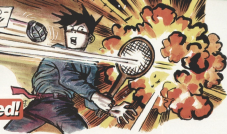
- PRESENTATION**
 - Character animation and sound
- VISUALS**
 - Basic block buildings, poor graphics
- SONICS**
 - Boring tunes and bad effects
- PLAYABILITY**
 - More tasks some getting hard to
- LASTABILITY**
 - No logical challenge, it never ends

59% FORCE

JUNE '93 SGA FORCE 61



PEACE - 平和の -
LOVE - LOVE ♡



Reviewed!



Annabel Croft looked far better modelling a tennis skirt than a jumpsuit and headphones. Given the choice between strawberries and cream and the lady herself, **ADRIAN PITT** knows what he'd go for! (Strawberries are quite nice this time of year, aren't they?!)



WIMBLEDON

I don't believe it! At long last a tennis sim I actually enjoy! Not that I fall in love with the game straight away, mind. It took half an hour's hard slogging and thrashing (let's keep it clean, please!)—it before I took to this like a sheep to molasses.

Tennis games are timeless. Graphics aren't usually their most outstanding feature, but if the sim plays well, you've found yourself a right little snatcher!

Speaking of which, Wimbledon Tennis plays like a dream! The first thing you notice is how fast the computer moves. Getting used to the control mechanism and the speed of your player takes a while, but once mastered you'll be hammering that ball like a good un!

Slam! Bam! Thank you, ma'am!

First things first. Decide whether to play against the computer, a friend—or how about a game of doubles? There are endless combinations.

Select the few match options and play one against one. Strangely enough, playing against the Master System isn't as tantalising as it sounds: there's a fairly balanced joust to be had. Before a match with a human opponent, get in some prac-

tice with your 8-bit buddy!

You need to be a brave old cookie to take part in the Wimbledon Tournament, facing some of the toughest opponents the tennis world has to offer.

You start in the quarter finals of the American Open and on winning that prestigious trophy, it's off to Australia.

France and finally Wimbledon itself, where your talent and powers fall under the critical gaze of a home crowd.

A great feature of Wimbledon Tennis are the points you allocate your player in three areas: speed, power and skill. You start with 15 points and are left to decide how best to distribute them.

On winning a series of three or six sets, you're awarded a few extra points. Why not bump up that skill level if your man's lagging a little?

A whole lotta lubbing!

All the usual guidelines of tennis apply: fault, deuce, net etc. If you're not familiar with 'em, have a good browse through a sport's encyclopaedia, 'cause the rules ain't in the instruction manual!

'Cause the rules ain't in the instruction manual!

The pad moves your man around the tennis court. A choice of three playing surfaces are available: clay, hard or lawn. Lawn has the slowest bounce factor, play the highest.

Serve, smash or lob with button [3], and execute a backhand or backhand movement with [1]. The exact stroke depends on where you are in relation to the net and the kind of shot hurtling toward you.

The players race around at quite a pace! Graphically, they're small yet perfectly formed (it like Gabriella Sabatini, know what I mean? Not 'er!)

Animation's top notch. When a player wins a game, he throws his arms in the air, performs a merry little dance and somersaults a couple of times to show his delight!

On the other side of the net, his downrodden opponent stamps his foot, scratches his racket on the floor, it is McInnes, and falls flat on his back in disgust!

A quick look around the court and you'll see

At long last a tennis sim I actually enjoy!



Tennis, and OF Wimbledon comes round once again and Britain has as much chance of winning a singles title as I have of getting Carter Stripe to say something nice to me. What Adrian says pretty much gives the game for me. The graphics are slightly small and a good pair of binoculars is a must, but this outshines the classic Super Tennis in the playability stakes. The two-player frenetic and four Grand Slam tournaments mean you'll be playing this come Wimbledon '93! My advice: SMASH down to your local Sega dealer, LOB 33 quid over the counter, and if he refuses to SERVE you, grab his NEW BALLS and give them a good FOREHAND!

PAUL



ON TENNIS

appears someone's locked the ballboys in the changing room! The stands are jam-packed with tennis buffs who applaud and cheer when a good shot's executed.

At the end of each game, the scoreboard pops up, just to keep you in check and show how well you're not doing!

A smasher of a game

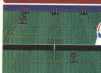
Wimbledon Tennis is nicely presented throughout, from the options screen with its choice of preset players, simultaneous two-player mode, password system and points allocation facility, to the match's exciting gameplay, smooth scrolling and fast, well animated sprites.

The only tugboat's the sound. It's atrocious! The cloy that plays throughout each set is really annoying. Reach for the volume knob immediately — you have been warned!

W? Will suit both the novice and professional tennis rat. Grab yourself a bottle of Robinson's Harley Water (blandest advertising!) —EOL, a sweet band and a couple of well-bourne balls and buy Wimbledon Tennis now!

(And that's from a man who thought Agassi were a company who produced Rubik's cubes!)

ADD



After wiping their hands with little guest towels and gazing politely at tennis hockey water, the adrenaline's pumping, and our guns are ready for action. But where's the ball? Cough! Probably in some posh helicopter dust-busting theme, eh?

• PRODUCER: SEGA
• OS: N/A • MD: N/A
• MEMORY: 256K
• PLAYERS: 1-3
• PRICE: £39.99

SF rating

PRESENTATION
• Passports, points cards
VISUALS
• Nice backgrounds, smooth sprites
SONICS
• Annoying in-game ditty, fair if it
PLAYABILITY
• Soon becomes easy to play
LASTABILITY
• Two-player doesn't fun

82% FORCE
• A limited game with great appeal



**Advance
Play!**



'I'll be back!' Try as we might we just can't get rid of PAUL MELLERICK. P'haps we could get him Terminated.



THE TERMINATOR

If you don't know anything about The Terminator then you're either from some planet near Alpha Centauri or just a plain dun-dun. The film's arguably one of the greatest sci-fi movies of all time and it's sequel, Terminator 2: Judgment Day, was one of the biggest grossing films of 1991.

The game's taken eight years to make the transition from the big screen and its various levels follows the film incredibly closely.

You take control of Kyle Reese, the human hero of 2029 who's sent back through time to the year 1984 to protect Sarah Connor, mother of John Connor, John

just happens to be the leader of the human resistance forces in 2029, battling the all-wise, singing, and dancing metal man.

Crispy!

Kyle must stop The Terminator from carrying out his mission to bump off Sarah, thus ensuring John will be born to lead the resistance.

The first level's developed from a scene not shown in the film, in which Kyle breaks into the hotel where a time displacement chamber's held. Destroy the reactor and find your way to the chamber before the bomb goes off.

The other levels follow the film with key scenes such as the Tech Rite nightclub, the police station and the final climax in the Cyberdyne steel works.

Looking at the two games side by side, you can't help but be stunned by the MS version. Such crisp and clear graphics is truly a great achievement for the 8-bit.

Grimey!

The MS also excels in animation.

On the second level, Kyle heads for the Tech Rite nightclub. On the way, avoiding copper and punks and cloaked in an old overcoat,

you fire your shotgun to kill the oncoming baddies. The animation's excellent as you fling open your coat, whip out your weapon and start blasting. Great!

The MS game is again outstanding, both graphically and sonically, with arcade style graphics, a fabulous in-game tune and great effects.

The subject matter alone provides a good atmosphere and the tried and tested search/shoot formula should go down well.

The Terminator looks like being a summer hit. Well worth buying.



PAUL



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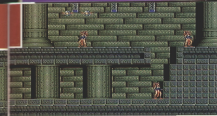


Dragons, eh? We've got plenty here! **PAUL MELLERICK**, dons his armour and does some slashing.



あーっ
うわっ!

ALISIA



Boy, is this cat elusive! We've been chasing this one for a good few months, and finally we've tracked it down. So let's get on with it! Alisa's had a very hard childhood. Her father was a powerful magician whose sole purpose in life was to thwart the evil prince Baldour. In return, Baldour, nice bloke that he is, tortured Alisa's



father to death right in front of her eyes, but for some reason her own life was spared.

Having inherited her father's powers, Alisa's on the ultimate quest to kill Baldour and avenge her dear daddy's death. What a sweetie!

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, Baldour has returned, hidden in a cocoon brought to Earth by Orin, his faithful servant.

Havec

The world's in a state of fear and Alisa must find Orin and the cocoon before Baldour awakes and evokes havoc on us all.

Alisa, of course, is by no means your average gal. Possessed by her own Thunder Magic she can take out most enemies with a quick blast. If she saves (jaws) for a few seconds, she'll unleash a powerful energy bolt all around her, killing everything within range.

As if that isn't enough, Alisa can summon one of four dragons to help her. Each has a different method of attack and this provides some element of strategy in each level.

Although Alisa's powerful in her own right, she still needs to upgrade her Thunder power. As she travels through each level, various power-ups start floating around. Destroying them releases items which benefit either Alisa or her dragon.



Wow! She's a bit of a delight, eh readers? A cross between Timberbell and Ansel Croft, methinks!

DRAGON

Alisa has only one life but three hit points, depleted on contact with enemies and hazards. Keep your eyes open for food items, which give back a certain amount of valuable hit points, and if a special coin's found, Alisa can increase her HPs from three to a maximum of five.

Of all of the icons, the most useful is the Thunder Level Up, which gives your Thunder power greater strength and makes it easier to kill the approaching enemies. You can also increase your dragon's level, making him faster and more powerful. Other icons include invisibility, Thunder power miss (which lasts for 10 seconds) and Platform which gives you an invisible step to ride on to reach the high places you can't jump to.

Alisa must use all these abilities and icons to traverse six levels of different monsters and scenery to meet Baldour and rid the Earth of its greatest ever threat.

Dazzler

But first things first. Alisa Dragon's a very well put together piece of programming. The graphics are fantasy-oriented to match the storyline and look very good indeed. The sprites are nicely drawn and animated, Alisa and her dragons especially good. On top of that, the sound's very moody and atmospheric.

Alisa Dragon has obvious links with Turrican and not only in its style of weapons. It's very much platform based, and with various secret rooms to be found (see map), exploring every nook and cranny is vital to success.

Each end-of-level baddie's imaginatively drawn and each one has to be killed in a different way. The second stage's baddie is particularly gruesome and very tough.

However, although all these points make a good game, the gameplay itself doesn't 'stick' together. The action's slightly monotonous and boring, and with only one life the difficulty setting may put some people off.

Overall, Alisa's an interesting game with very nice graphics, but some may find it too bland or too bland. Or both.

PAUL



Oh! What's going on behind those pillars? Come on, this is a family show. Shut ya eyes kids!



As they say in all good pantomimes, 'Behind you!' Use of ya powers to kill that buggar as he makes a move from behind! Cower misers!

空戦—ホビ—の—
—で—



He flies through the air with the greatest of ease, blasting the ass off each baddie he sees! **ADRIAN PITT** dons leather jacket and goggles and does a quick Biggles impersonation! What about the scarf, Ade?!



Reviewed!

FIRE SHARK



Above: Our hero lets rip one of his mega bombs!
Below: Those tanks and planes sure came handy.



I find it hard to rave about Fire Shark 'cos the basic format's been around for donkey's years. It's a run-of-the-mill, fly around and blast game and in the first attempt, the whole caboodle looks pretty damned boring!

However, after several plays I must admit I was getting hooked! Progress further into the game and things get damn tough! There's also that 'Can I get to the end of the level before my lives run out?' element and it's not long before that bi-plane goes into overdrive!

Oh to be alone on a desert island! Sun, sea, sand and... Sega! (© Paul Matherick, 1992.) I hate to be a wet blanket but governments' world-wide watch in dread as a small isle in the South Pacific's bombarded by enemy forces.

Behind enemy lines...

Tanks, UMI fighter planes, cannons, missile cruisers, submarines — the lot goes on.

They're lean, mean and completely obscene! This tropical paradise is about to be conquered — only YOU can save the day. Fabulously surprising!

As Fire Shark, fly your bi-planes through ten action-packed stages, blasting and bombing literally anything and everything that gets in your way, before it starts you.

You start with a maximum of four players, split three-way fly and three blackouts combine. The screen scrolls vertically as you move your war machine over hazardous terrains and skies full to bursting with enemy forces.

Other bi-planes, HIGHER tanks, OK basic cannons, RPG interceptors, Gauding fighters, fleet craft and the like swarm around the screen spawning fireballs and generally being a god-damned nuisance!

Knock 'em out with your wing mounted cannons, or if things get somewhat tricky and the opposition start to gang up on you, drop one of your bombs and cause mass destruction! Lovely.

Watch out for the klumps that chug slowly down the screen — destroy them and you could be in for improved armour and well 'ed' firepower.

Big, bad beasts!

Collect the 'S' symbol and your flying speed and mobility are increased. Grab those 'P' icons and your weapons are upgraded. Super Fire, Shark Beam and Wide Shot are yours for the taking.

Super Fire's the strongest means of defense, it huge laser beam that fires in four directions — if you collect plenty of power-ups.

Lo and behold! At each stage's finish line there's the infamous end-of-level adversary! A Pom-B super tank, U-Tompson flag ship, 237 Peeper nine-gun super bomber... Some are easier to defeat than others but there are ten in all. Prepare yourself for a nipping good yendocuous!

All levels are graphically similar. Zoom over forests, deserts, gaping ravines and vast oceans. Scrolling's smooth, the backdrops are fairly colourful and atmospheric and the animation of enemy sprites is simply spitting!

Zoom over forests, gaping ravines and vast oceans

PRODUCER: SEGA
 GEN: N/A MS: N/A
 MEMORY: 312K
 PLAYERS: 1
 PRICE: 79.99

SEGA rating

PRESENTATION

• Easy to learn, no two player option

VISUALS

• Nice backgrounds and sprites

SONICS

• Annoying tunes, weak guitar FX

PLAYABILITY

• Easy to control and play

LASTABILITY

• Addictive but easily completed

61% FORCE

• Not for the hardened gamer/player

Sound's a little irritating. The in-game tune's a grating saxophony and the spot FX are simple beeps and boops, with a few basic explosion noises.

Also on the downside, the same enemy craft crop up time and time again. However, from round six onwards they won't take 'na' for an answer! The planes swoop a helluva lot faster, the tanks move and fire in huge groups. You gotta be quick to continue.

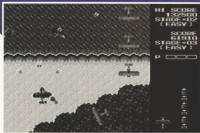
It's just plane easy!

If you're an hardened gamer/player, don't play *Fire Shark* in Easy mode. It's possible (thanks to the five continues) to get quite far on first attempt (Paul 'Steelhead' Melnick reached Level 18). You've the option to decrease the number of lives and turn off the rapid fire facility if you don't want your mates to think you're a wimp!

Enemy forces always attack in patterns, so when you're suited out where and when they're going to fire, the game becomes even easier!

Fire Shark isn't got much lastability. It looks okay but plays too easy. It's addictive for a while but the gameplay's just too samey. Monotony's the key word here, methinks. *Checks away!*

ADP



Below: A huge end of level adversary. This one's a tank and he takes a load of blasting to suit...



If you're looking for a fast, fun shoot-'em-up, you've come to the right place! *Fire Shark* has a lot to offer: good graphics, intense sound and stunning effects. It's all been done before but this game still manages to get that old adrenalin flowing! You'll find the early levels easy but don't expect the ride to be smooth later on. The only gripe I have is the delay when you die — it seems to take forever for you to reappear! A good action-packed game that doesn't require you to strain the old grey matter to master! Just what I like!

CLARE

今更はおどろきの
私事雑誌一冊!



Reviewed!

MARIO LEMII



ADRIAN PITT's
always puckering
up to someone, but
he sure ain't paying
Mario any lip service!
It's just too cold and
whatever would the
neighbours say?

Grease up your helmet, protect your priorities and get your skates on — it's time to hit the ice, get down and get dirty in the mean, moody world of Mario Lemieux Hockey.

Who the hell's Mario Lemieux? Could be a Lithuanian steel bender as far as I'm concerned, though that glint of useless intermission, Paul Matisoff, informs me he's some sort of talented Canadian hockey player. A real devil on the ice and twice as nasty off it.

Before you get too excited, you don't actually get to play old Mario here. Instead you're in charge of a tough, talented team of puck pushers screaming to take the world by the throat at the tick of the 'revvie switch.

Seriously though, if you like it tough you're gonna love this — it's hard enough just figuring out how the heck to play it if you've got a spare weekend grid the manual and stay in bed.

'You bloody liar!'

The game kicks off with an options menu as long as your arm, where you can pick the type of game you want and your team. Take your time — it could mean the difference between losing and getting a damned good thrashing!

Each team's got different skills so pick carefully between shooting, power, passing, speed, defense and goalie. There are loads of different ratings and you've got to find the ideal balance



Getting to grips with the gameplay is the first major obstacle you've got to overcome. After that, it's just a matter of keeping your feet and going for goals.

for your all star team.

The Options menu lets you set up the rules, duration and difficulty level. If you're looking to fight really dirty, a blind referee's gotta be first choice!

When you finally get round to a game, remember the password system. Very handy for saving long games. At last and stop your mates telling you a lying git if you actually win a game.

Deck 'em hard

From the main options, you can pick Exhibition, Tournament, Shootout or — wait for it — Fight. Forget sportsmanship, just punch your team members' lights out for a laugh!

No no no... serious about skills.

Here. Use the direction control to move your player left and right and click the other puckster with choice punches while ducking his blows. Knock his energy bar down to zero and watch him melt!

Viewing the goal from behind your player, you've got four chances to score in Shootout. Pressing [B] sends the puck winging towards you and [A] should slam it into the goal. Or your best bet: let the tabs be turned and you find yourself standing in the line of fire as the other team does



its worst if you can't swile up an opponent for a two-player game, don't worry, you can try your luck against the computer controlled bulldozers and experience the most shameful dubbing of your career — these gamers ain't messing!

Captain Morgan ahoy?

Once the main game and it's options time again. Take part in an Exhibition game, a basic two-player head-to-head, or get your boys involved in a Tournament. Pretty much like the real thing, the tournament sees you taking in teams loan across the US and Canada.

Divided into two conferences (East and West) with four teams in each division, you've got to win the first round divisional match-ups and advance to the second round before you can trash it out for the title.

With a bit of luck and a lot of practice, the winners get a shot at (S) Biggie Bros, the SEGA CUP! Whoa!

Pick your game, press Start and get a good grip on your stick!

The game's pretty good to look at and the referee's always jam-packed with colourful, furious action. Sadly, the sound's not up to much,

**Good to look at but
handles like a faulty
Robin Reliant**



It's ice hockey — thrills, spills, fights and really raucous organ music. But don't get your hopes up, Mario Lemieux Hockey's got none of the above. By, except the organ bit. All Hockey is my all-time favourite 16D game. It's fast, skilful and great fun in two-player mode, everything Mario isn't. The players are unresponsive and the control system tricky (why the hell you don't control the player you pass to is beyond me). If you want ice hockey, buy EA's game. Instead, if you've already got it, try a train-spotting stint.

PAUL



LEUX HOCKEY



sounding like a Hammond organ with halitosis!

'Who am I?'

If you fancy spending most of a game trying to figure out who you're controlling, Mario Lemieux is right up your street! Worse still, when you've got your man (absolutely — Ed), try and figure out what to do with him!

Oh all of a nightmare, really. There go what you players fall over for a giggle and it's damned impossible to score (almost like the real thing, I guess).

Starting with the face-off against your opponent, the puck's tossed in and you're away! Get possession early on, keep passing, steer toward the goal and shoot!

Yep, sounds so easy you could squish it and still score at the same time!

Forget it! The controls are sluggish, confusing and you'll find yourself yawning more often than scoring. The only time there's any fun is when two players collide and it's no more like *Mean Guy*! Your opponent gets a damn good kicking and you gain possession of the puck!

If the controls were a touch easier, this would be a fast, thrilling hockey simulation. Sports games should be fun to watch and challenging to play. This game may be good to look at but it handles like a faulty Robin Hood!

AGE



• PRODUCER: SEGA
• GEN: N/A • MS: N/A
• MEMO: 512K
• PLAYER: 2
• PRICE: £39.99

SF *rating*

PRESENTATION

• Team selection and level options

VISUALS

• Colourful sprites and good static pics

SONICS

• General tunes and spot effects

PLAYABILITY

• Awkward controls, time consuming

LASTABILITY

• Loads of levels but hard to win

65% FORCE

• A fair Sports game but too tricky for its own good



Mention gore to ADRIAN PITT and he hides behind the sofa! Convinced the planet Iccus is no more terrifying than a wet weekend in Wigan, off he trots. (Oh! Did we forget to mention Dr Destroyer and his rabid alien army?!)



Reviewed!

This sizzling shoot-'em-up's been available on grey import for decades! (Yeah, maybe a year and a bit!) and only now have Sega made it official! It's a known fact that if you're all the shoot-'em-up and-to-end-they'd stretch from Roger Feggs in *Barney in Furryland*! So, what another amusing example of mindless techno-violence landed on my desk, I was all set to be outrageously critical.

Surprisingly, this wasn't to be! *Gynoug's* a real brawler of a game. With excellent graphics and ace special effects, it stands out like a billion bulbs at a barnstorm!

Gore, glorious gore!

Huh-ho, bubble, toil and trouble! Supernatural forces have brewed up a whole lotta hassle for the inhabitants of Iccus, planet of the flying men.

Master of Evil (and all his curves), The Destroyer sent his invulnerable mutants to take on the world, conquer Iccus and clip the wings of all who fly there. As *Woo*, the planet's beloved bumblebeard, it's your task to blast these mutants to bits, kick The Destroyer's derriere from here to kingdom come and save your homeland from complete and utter annihilation.

Gynoug's a horizontally scrolling shoot 'n' blast, with six action-packed levels — and believe you me, they're tough!

Fortunately the options screen allows you to bump up the number of lives from three to five and if you're not in a playing in 'hyper mode', easy levels' strangely added!

Sound isn't set in a series of underground caverns, choc-full of televisions, telephones, poisonous algae and spores, the likes of which have only been sighted once before: at the bottom

GYNOUG

of Mr Mellerick's fish tank!

Wizards spit fireballs, sorcerers spell lava, flies swarm and attack en masse — not the prospect of terrors to overcome for one who looks so angelic!

As you fly around the screen, dodging and blasting badies, don't forget to collect special items, magic potions and the like, all vital for ousting dark forces and evil minions.

Grab a Speed Feather and you zoom across the plains of Iccus eight times faster (yeah!). The Orb Of Power increases the strength of your weapons, while the Orb Of Pattern designs a new cloak for you. Et, cetera! It enhances your armory with and rings.

Scrolls add a whole host of magic spells to your inventory, Energy Balls absorb enemy fire and lightning potions drop fiery bolts on the bad guys.

Magic Arrows are heat-seeking and eliminate even the strongest mutants. Auto Shields are impenetrable, protecting you from just about everything. The Destroyer's scarabaeas have up their nasty little sleeves.

End-of-level bossbats are bad enough, but in *Gynoug*, big blowies appear mid-level too! Dragons, Goblins, Monkeys, Pteroids and Locomotive Beasts, to name but a few. They're graphically stunning and tough cookies to crack.

Later levels are incredibly tricky. Fly under a

bat! Visit a haunted castle, take a trip to a futuristic warehouse.

Stage three's a nightmare! The scenery scrolls at an alarming rate. Not only must you keep up, you've gotta avoid collision with flogs as well as fanged fiends!

Visually awesome!

Gynoug sports some stunning graphics. The multi-layer parallax scrollings are amazing! The backdrop away from side to side and scroll at extraordinary angles — buy some travel sickness tablets, the effect left me feeling queasy!

The main sprite's a little dull but moves at quite a rate. The enemy are big, colourful and well animated and there are plenty of 'em! The game doesn't slow down in the slightest when there's a swarm of the buggies onscreen.

Another sweetest in *Gynoug's* favour is speed. Fast and furious gameplay makes for a highly addictive challenge. There may only be six levels but it's gonna be a long time before this one's completed — especially in 'hyper mode'!

Sound is well 'n' loud! The in-game titles add a sense of speed and urgency to your quest. Spur FX are great, loads of explosions and ear-splitting blasting noises!

Why not mess havoc with the plethora of weapons and potions? It's great fun using magic spells, particularly when face-to-face with a mid- or end-of-level guardian.

Fast and frantic fun! Proof there's life in the old dog yet!

ADD

**Fast and furious
gameplay for addictive
challenge**



G



I've played tons of shoot-'em-ups on the MD and to be frank (if you must, Paul), *Gynging* offers nothing new. The weapons and magic shots provide some interest and oomph, even the graphical hints are amusing and pretty to look at, but they add nothing to the game. (Apart from making you gawk to the personae God!) The difficulty settings' good, the first three levels quite easy and later levels much harder, but with only six levels, this continues and the same gameplay throughout. *Gynging* won't last long, if you're new to shoot-'em-ups it might be worth a look. On the other hand, if you're already got *Heathen*, *Zeno* (King Arrow Flash etc), it'll be a bit down.

PAUL



Looks a bit like a lost hangover! On the inside of Paul Mallon's head!



The mid-level monster on stage pro. Keep lifting his head and watch out for the tentacle.



PRODUCER: SEGA

GEN: TT & MS: TT

MEMORY: 512K

PLAYERS: 1

PRICE: £34.99

SF rating

PRESENTATION

◆ Good atmosphere. Good options

VISUALS

◆ Amazing backgrounds and sprites

SONICS

◆ Nice in-game effects and good FX

PLAYABILITY

◆ Fast and furious action

LASTABILITY

◆ Six levels. It's a real challenge

84% FORCE

◆ Shooting over 5000 a third game.



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Directions: Indicate your answer in space of question



**Advance
Play!** 



My caliber's bigger than yours, Mr MELLERICK. Nyaa! But it's not how big it is, it's what you do with it. Like kill thousands of Viet Cong in this coin-op conversion.

a classic) on your MD. I love a good shooty as much as the next man and, after looking at the box and reading the manual, I was positively clomping at the bit (actually, Adrian was too lazy to review it so I had to).

The control system's worth explaining. The coin-op had an Atari 2600-style joystick — you turned the stick 360 degrees to indicate which direction to fire in as well as to run.

For some stupid reason, the programmers left this system in Buttons [A] and [C] changes your aim, anti-clockwise or clockwise, while the D-pad moves you and [B]'s fire. This system's a nightmare.

Thankfully, there's another control method. The second uses the D-pad for both movement and directional fire, so you fire in the direction you're running. This is much more suitable so why the first one was even programmed is beyond me.

Caliber .50 scrolls in all directions as you go, knocking off nasty villagers on the way. The nice ones drop a power-up when they kick the water-

CALIBER.50

Believe it or not, Caliber .50 (shouldn't that be .50?) Caliber's is a coin-op conversion from a few years' ago. The packaging says it was a Top Ten hit. (Sorry — never heard of it.)

On to the game/scenario: Your name is Addie, Captain Addie. The year is 1972, the place Vietnam. The mission, get the GPMG out of there.

While on a reconnaissance mission (telling a few peasants, more like) your plane gets ambushed by some villagers and you take serious damage. Remembering the ejector seat, you float safely to the ground.

You float safely, but as soon as you hit the ground trouble starts. As you're landed in the middle of the jungle and as you've probably guessed, the villagers are none too pleased.

So now you're gonna have to yomp through the levels to reach the rendezvous point and save yourself from certain and very nasty death.

Oh great. Commando (even older coin-op but

holding itsplace).

You can power up your weapon twice, starting with a basic machine gun (a .50 caliber, would you believe), upgrading to a rocket launcher then a flame thrower.

You have between three and five lives, depending on the options you've set. An energy gauge decreases with every hit and when it hits bottom it's bye-bye time.

If you find your way through the levels, defeating bosses along the way, you may live to see another day.

Oh dear, here we go again. Anyone would think I rate every game harshly but there are some real stinkies around at the moment — and this is one of them. Caliber .50's slow, unoriginal, has awkward controls, is incredibly repetitive, graphically terrible and sonically abysmal. Even except of this game's horrible so slow well done. Go for Merc instead.

PAUL



You walk in a right state. You're a Vietnam village, surrounded the locals, just kill everybody.



How you finished your school I'll never know.



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GUTTER SNIPE

As cool as ice, as tough as nails, more violent than the January sales, he's mean, he's bad, he's one of the boys, belching and spitting, his favourite joys, cross him and over the floor you'll be plastered, a threat and a half, he's a dangerous...

Sa, you've convinced the rest of the mag? Thought you'd come crawling to me, eh? That's no surprise! Best bit of the mag, this. Pity about ya letters, though!

Aah, aah, aah. Your eyes are bigger than ya belly! You lot never give up do ya? I don't exist just to answer your queries. I've loads of important things to do, like repointing the brickwork and bling the salish butch.

Anyway, if you're anything at all relevant to say, you can write to me at this address: GUTTER SNIPE, SEGA FORCE, Burperton Impast, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW. And if ya think sniggering's gonna get ya anywhere — eat dirt, sucker!

On the other hand, if what you've got to say is a load of old bullshite, send it in anyway. At least I'll give us something to laugh about here at Force HQ.

Telling porkies

Dear Gutter Snipe

I have a MAJOR complaint to put forward. I recently read issue Four of SEGA FORCE (and was shocked to discover a couple of dudes with one brain cell between 'em claiming to have completed *Act One of Sonic* in 26 SECONDS!

I believe this to be complete BULL****! No way could anybody believe this crap! It's a physical impossibility to get so many rings in just 81 seconds.

My friend and I are the BEST gamers-players in the world. We're able to grab 30 rings in 27 seconds. We believe Stuart Packer and his chum have told you a load

of old B****s. We know that you're too chicken to print this letter, but we'd like to name SEGA FORCE's good name from those two jokers. I'm very annoyed readers, *Redhead Sunny*. PS Please excuse our language, but we like to prove a point!

Two chicken! Bah! Who do ya think I am, Bernard Matthews? Your explosives were a little over the top, though not for us stinking gutter dwellers. Some of these crinoid parents tend to get a little hot under the collar when we start printing four-letter words. The number of letters we received from mums and dads moaning about the word 'words' on page 23 of issue Four were phenomenal! (Gasp!) I've said it again!

As for your MAJOR complaint, well, what can I say? I received another letter from a guy claiming Stuart and Wain were cheats and finishing the Act in such a record time was like 'someone in lovely skin-tight trunks swimming

across the Atlantic in three seconds'! (His words, not mine).

We had photographic evidence! In so many old we tamper with those people. Gave the spacer a wind handle and a few more spots, but that's it! I could always ask Stuart Packer and his mate to send in their solution, but quite frankly, I couldn't give a toss! Now 'DSG' eh!

Secret identity?

Yeh! Most righteous DS

Or should I say, PETER G GUTIN? I've found out from an (unreliable) source! That this is in fact your real name! A very clever anagram eh... GUTTER SNIPE is this true?

P Johnson, Weaverham, Cheshire

WRONG! WRONG! WRONG! Neither am I. REG AERISTUT from Charnham in Kent! And you won't find any weird Satanic references when you say my name backwards! You extremely sad person! Get a life!



Yeah, well, you can still get your revelations from the corner shop, but as Bart and Berry Packer from Aulley, Shropshire found out, you've gotta get ya soldier's sorry in the morning if you want to catch hold of your love. (Sighs) Well, you see to-please, get on the end of it now!

Underwear revealed!

Yeh! DJ Snipe

What's your favourite MD game? What's the best Mega CD game around at the moment? What's your favourite arcade game? Do you wear Y-fronts? A real cool dude, Simon, Cambridge

You kids, questions, questions, questions! Ya parents are gonna be nervous winks when you start asking about the facts of life! Streetwise!

I dunno why I should answer ya teasers, 'cos I don't get to play the MD very often. Those deathbed reviewers are always hoggin' it. Anyway, I'm quite into *Conan*. Sandiego at present, 'cos I'm dead broke and don't need to use that arty-farty 'cyclopedia thingies.

I've not too keen on the Mega-CD games around at the moment, ask me again in six months' time. *Streetfighter* is probably the best arcade game.

This is a 'I-front Free Zone'. A couple of old bits of sackin', with nice sewn in for added thermal protection! Suits me down to the ground!

Mega Drive move

Dear DS

Please could you answer the following question? I'm going to sell my Master System and buy a Mega Drive, is this a good move? Which is better, the Mega Drive or the Super NES?

Is Kid Charlemagne worth buying? If not, why not?

Finally, what does NA and T&A mean? I've noticed these appear a lot in your ratings.

Gerard McKinnon, Co. Derry, N Ireland

Obviously, in time, everyone wants to better their system. Yeh, it's a sound move to buy an MD when you've played your Master System to death. Or if you've got the cash, wait for the Wonderlands to appear.

Three uses for an SNES: a) as a drought includes, b) as a novelty hanging basket, c) as a Wendy House for kid centipedes.

Kid Chameleon's not bad. See our review, issue Five.

HA means, 'Not Applicable' and TBA is our jolly little nickname for Paul Metherick, ie, 'That Bleedin' Aa!' Only joking! 'To Be Announced' is the phrase I was looking for!

Beats British Rail carnies!

Dear Guit

Razonoff have got it right, there must be a few older gamers who've shelled out on gear for their kids and want to cash in, but some hedgehogs don't make it!



In my younger days, an obsession with hedgehogs was a severe behavioural problem. Not to do with little young ladies like Annet in *BJ Hants*, ideal after an hour of British Rail in the evening, though I'd like more sex with my scientist! Bearing older gamers in mind, could I focus through your magazine that software houses include playerlevel practice options or a selectable number of continues. With only a couple of hours a week to play, this continues is hardly enough for something like *BJ Hants*. Its even worse when you can't bear to see Annet die and have to wait when her life's down to the last millimetre. (see Colan!) Haywards Heath: Sussex Travelling by train, can be quite hair-raising, although there's never any sex and violence on my train. The last time I travelled InterCity, there was a massive queue for the toilets, so the driver came round selling cloakroom tickets! Weir!

As none of the software houses read *SEGA FORCE* (they're into things like *The People's Friend* and *Wendy*) you can read till you're red in the face. But not! Keep noise in the PITSTOP for some of the greatest tips and cheats around.

Guitar threats

Hot Guitr dude

I think your mag's brilliant. I have a few questions for you.



1. What's the best game for the Mega Drive?
2. Have you got any cheats for *The Smoother Disk Tapper*?
3. Is there anywhere in England where I can exchange my old Mega Drive carts?
4. What a BT times four?

Please answer all these or I'll tell everyone not to buy your mag. You'll go out of business and then you won't have a job, so there.

Gabriel McEvoy, Co. Louth, Ireland

PS: That Essex post is a bit of a wanker! (You know, the one who can't remember what he wants to say!)

Tut! Tut! Such threats from one so young! And a lady too! Well, if you must know, I've been offered another job. It's an acting role. I star alongside Willie Sugden in a brand spanking new sitcom, 'That's My Warthing' — watch out for it this autumn!

Here are the answers to y's questions little girl: 1. Seeing as I like better people up, it's gotta be *Streets of Rage*. 2. See last issue for immortal tips! 3. Yes, scan the ads for the Solid Gold Exchange Club! 4. Knock off, ask that brainy weath on Countdown!

Lemmings mania

Dear Guitr

Is *Lemmings* out for the MSX? How much does it cost?

You've got a real hairy mag (ie, very good), with an even better Letters Editor. Unfortunately, your magazine's existence is spelt by Paul Tri a wimp with a massive golf handicap.

How easy the lack! Maggins for the cup! And long live Kevin Keegan! Peter Atkinson, Whitburn, Tyne and Wear

Gripes! You lot only need get a whiff of something and the letters come flooding in! *Lemmings* is still 'in the works', as they say in these circles. An official release date hasn't been announced when I strained to put this load of clapping together.

Paul was deeply outraged when he read your comment, but then again, that's nothing new. He's been that way ever since he got stuck in a lift in 1976 with Bonnie Laughlin and a bloody Supper salesman.

As for Kevin Keegan, in my day we called stars of Mega and screen, like Chris Garbo, Maurice Chevalier and Dolly Part. *Lemmings* Plans, not some pesser with a curly perm and bad taste in ties! Don't it out!

Completely paranoid!

Hot Snipeman

I'm beginning to think Sega have something against me. Here's the evidence: When I got a Master System, all the mag's started raving about a '16-bit technological marvel called a Mega Drive. Then, when I eventually managed to lay my grubby little paws on one of these contraptions, those self same 'mags' revealed the existence of the Mega-CD! Am I just being paranoid, or is 'Big Brother' watching over me? If this trend continues, I expect the *GigaDrive* to be released in Japan the day I get a CD-Rom. Well, until Nintendo come up with an original idea, mate mine *SEGA FORCE*! Steve Patterson, Manor Bridge, Mipon

PS Don't you think 'Super Teenage Mutant Ninja Powering System Packer' is a good game title? For an FX 4800, that is!

Sorry Steve, you've missed the bus I'm afraid! Haven't you heard? There's a new Sega mag out now entitled: *SEGA FORCE: IS THE ADRIAN PITT YEARS*. It's great, packed full of news and reviews on the latest GigaMegaFrendoMundoDrive software. Buy it now — you know it makes sense!

As for an FX 4800, I've had more laughs filling the holes in a helmet. Tadah a bit!

Amstrad blues

Dear Guit

I'm hoping you can help to keep my nine-year-old son happy. He wants to buy a Sega Master System II. As he doesn't have his own TV set and we don't want the living room television taken over, I was wondering if it's possible to adapt his Amstrad CPC-464 colour monitor?

Peter Cope, Harlow, Essex

Anyone who calls me 'Sir' warrants a reply! Well Paul, to be totally honest — ABSOLUTELY NO FLUCKY CHANCE! Take care!

FORCEful praise

Dear Guitr

SEGA FORCE is brill. Best Sega mag available. It puts Sega Pro and Sega Power's shame.

The readers' chart is a great idea. I love the competitions you set, there are some

ice prices. The only thing I can fault you on is the Classifieds section — it looks dead boring and doesn't attract the eye. Maybe it'll get better when more people put ads in.

Danish Williams, Gwynedd, N Wales
PS Could you beat up Mean Toot from Mean Macintosh? He gets on my nerves.

Thanks for being such a bleedin' creep! We'd like more entries for the readers' chair, so get crackin' you bastards.

I reckon you answered your own question as far as the Classifieds are concerned, Danish. The more ads we get, the bigger the section. God! Ain't we so bloody logical?

Cheated by Sonic

Dear Editor

I read there was a cheat for Sonic on the Master System. Up, Down, Left, Right, buttons [1] and [2] together. Every time I try this, the game starts. Please can you tell me whether this cheat actually works? Scott Menzies, Fife, Scotland

We all know the infamous MD (Sonic) cheat that allows access to all levels. This bleedin' MD tip has had our reviewers fazed (sneezing in with the animal reference). I reckon, it's just a wicked prank started by those Nintendo-wise gits (Wiihops, is that Nintendo, Mr Ed? They do have this unnatural talent for sueing people, ya know?).

Yep! We've had this cheat sent to us and if there's anyone out there who can get it to work, live in a darkened room with a mutilated copy of your mother's Herman's Weekly on your head, reciting



Daniel Swinewood of Stoke-on-Trent's been long with his Sonic out-Sonic. I know what you're trying to say out there, but can't you millionaires draw anything except old Spidey?

Here's another one from Daniel which puts a whole new light on playing with yourself! Do for it Sonic, but very, very carefully!



the first three verses of Pam Ayres's epic and highly acclaimed poem, 'Oh, I Wish I'd Looked After the Teeth'. Keep-poosy Japanese!

A bit on the side

Dear Mr Snips

You printed my last letter and asked for a reply. And you've got one! You asked me to send you a piece of my girlfriend. She's now my ex-girlfriend — she found out there was something else in my life — SEGA FORCE! Anyway, it's my birthday on July 31st. I've had a very early present... a Mega Drive! That should keep me happy till the next thing! Shane 'Console-head' Adams, Reddish PS: He mag's gettin' better!

SEGA FORCE

Here's the best way to reach other dedicated Sega game-lovers with whatever it is you want to reach them with: FOR SALE, WANTED, SWAPS, PEN PALS, UNDER COVERS and the like. And it's absolutely cheap (covers the cost of reprinting).

20 WORDS FOR £1

40 WORDS FOR £2

NAME

ADDRESS

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CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED CRYPT, SEGA FORCE, EUROPEAN IMPACT, LUGDUN, SHROPSHIRE £15 LYN

Only for private use, no trade ads accepted. The editor reserves the right to alter or refuse ads which do not conform to acceptable standards.

Adrian Pitt's rules from the typing list. For £1 you get 20 words — that's the top block of boxes. Or you can write up to 40 words for a healthy £2! That's all there is to it — except, please write in block capitals, neatly. Adrian's oversight isn't what it used to be, and nobody

your payment of cheque or postal order made payable to Europress Impact. Don't forget to fill in your name and address (in case we have to return your ad and payment for any reason). Allow up to 4 weeks before ads appear.

SEGA FORCE



This one from J. Alexander in Co. Antrim's guitar has for Paul Mullerick. If it isn't, somebody's in for a right good thumping!

Hate to disappoint you, turd-for-brains, but that girlfriend of yours knew which side her bread was buttered and came to live with me! She makes great worm casserole! The sexy vixen sends her love. Oh, and can she have her Broc records back? All the best!

Irish eyes are smiling!

Dear Gutter Snipe,
Hi all you Magalogs and pieceal! Here are a couple of my scribbles. I thought your mag was the best to send them to- it's more adult than the others. Some magazines just don't have the **power** to keep up! I must admit, I don't think you'll print one particular piece, you might think it's crap anyway! When you're finished with 'em, can you return them in the envelope provided. It's not because it's a fan of the power

ISSUE 4 COMPETITION WINNERS BY IMAGE WORKS!

Well whaddya know!Those tricky old BACK TO THE FUTURE posters had loads of ya well and truly Michael JFoxed - peddled!Anyway, the long and short of it is that you dumb thickos out there who got the questions wrong won't even get a sniff at the fabulomous prizes.What are (they?)

Oh, for all those lucky first 50 winners pulled out of the hat, you can look forward to getting hold of some brilliant **MADE WORKS** goodies, including T-shirts, watches, journals, and a whole lot more.

But, for those incredibly jammy top 10 rockers without cut there, there's also a video and some extra mega gear to be had with a better head of the staff.

Here goes! With the top-10 keep your eyes peeled and see if you're there! The winners are Alan Parker of Dagenham, Essex, 0800 426; Craig Burns of Hillington, Glasgow, 022 290; David Sheehy of Maccleson, Kent, 015 690; Caroline Hamilton of Longport Works (shower), Sheffield, 05 704; Jean Gosselin (joints) of Jordanthorpe, Sheffield, 050 500; Emily Mathies of Malthamstead, London, 017 604; Brian Hamilton of Halifax, West Yorkshire, 081 303; Robert Gosselin of Rochester, Kent, 063 900; Stewart Cook of Bolton, 091 4111 444 and finally, Joanna Sinclair of South, Sheffield, 019 697.

Loads of entries from up Sheffield way this month, not surprising 'cos they're probably 'ard as steelbit, and it's a big BUT, they're not as hard as us at SEGA FORCE and anybody who disagrees is looking for a good drubbing (hehehehe)

Adam Rose's dad from Norwich drew this one. Haven't you got something better to do with your life? Good ones!



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Now, about your magazine. CLASS, At etc. etc. I really enjoy reading your replies to letters. You're not a guy who pampers the readers! Your mag's great value, fewer pages are taken up with ads. Your reviews are excellent, a major bonus considering the price of games. Glad to see someone from the supposedly "weaker" sex on the team. We women have been used to waging psychic since the dawn of time. Good on you, good work.

Joanne Alexander (an old reader of
2011, Co. Boston)

What a crawler you are, Joanne! Believe it or not, for the first time in 100 decades, I'm in a good mood, so I forgive your sickly crawling and put you



That's better, good job that was the last of the letters this month, don't think I could've taken a lot more of that. Not that I'm wimping out or anything like that, it's just that you can get too much of a good thing - or can you?



Ministry from Alexander again, but you won't have a second date, either! Good!

That's ya lot, Out here. Summer's almost upon us and Ludlow's a great place to be at this time of year. While I check a few more begging letters on the bonfire and worry a couple of sheep, why not have a spy at the back issues bit and see what you've been missing? Issue One's become a collector's item, basically 'cos Paul McAllister's out in it! See you!

Next Month

Hold the back page, pin back your legs and getta load of this! SEGA FORCE is wiring for sound with Amazing ATLANTIC 252 Long Wave Radio. You'd better believe it! FORCE FIELD, a brand new preggie sponsored by SEGA FORCE, will be going out to you for the very first time on Wednesday May 27 at 8:30pm, bustin' with news, reviews, hints, tips and enough stuff to blow your brains. Tune in and look out for more details next month.

PLUS

WWF NEWS, SENNA (SUPER MONACO 2) AND EVANDER HOLTFIELD BOXING!
Don't miss the incredible Issue 6, on sale from 14 May.

FEELING LUCKY, PUNKS?!

Okay, so we knew it was bound to happen. But seeing Danny Gurney well and truly dumped on by Paul Mellerick at the Battle Of The Giants was pretty satisfying!

So what does all that mean for you poor suckers out there? It means you're gonna have to be f*cking brilliant if you reckon you can Rub Out Paul Mellerick!

Sure, Paul's had loads of offers from sad, misguided huffies who thought collecting 80 rings from the first level of Sonic was good. Pffft! Try doubling it and we might stop panning.

If you seriously think you've got the balls and skill to take on old 'Gurney Clusker' Mellerick you'd better keep prac-

tising then fill in the special Rub Out Paul Mellerick coupon below.

No matter what your best game is, on any Sega format, send in the coupon with a photograph of yourself and we'll see which ones are worth total annihilation!

If you get lucky, you could be in for a complete smashing up here at SEGA FORCE! However, with major is doing same old is a tap of sad tea thrown in, it not, you'll probably get laughed at by Paul somewhere on the hi-scores page anyway.

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